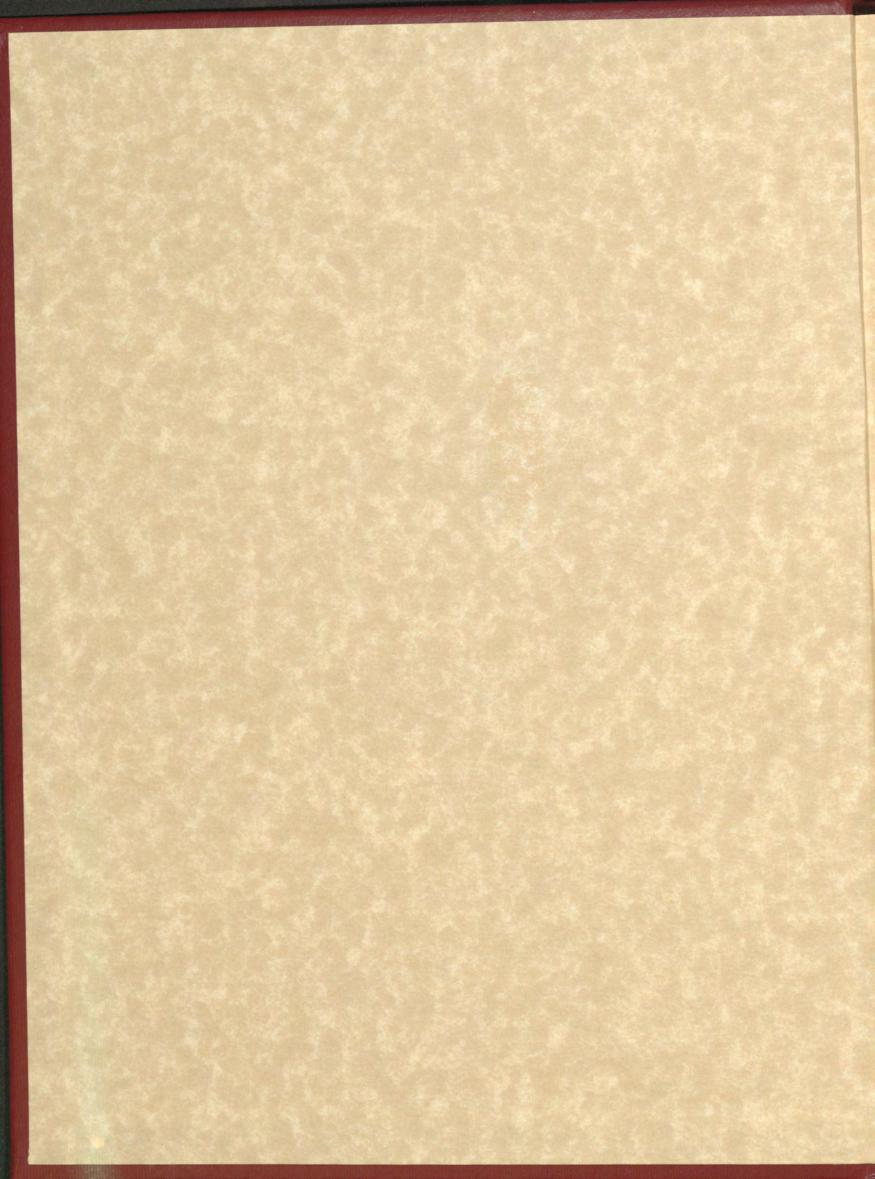
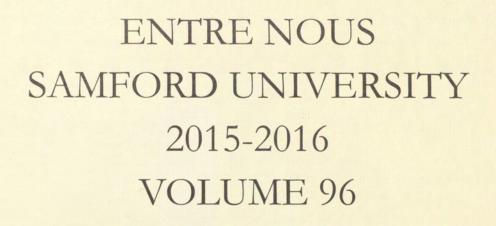
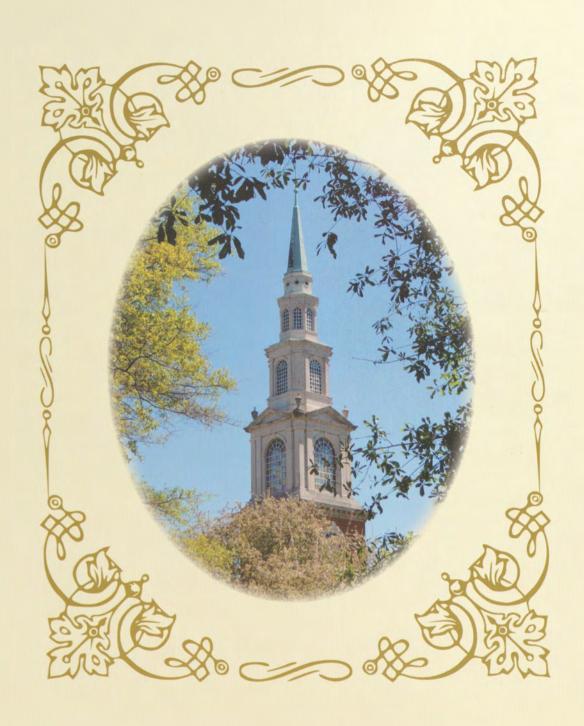
# ENTRE NOUS Samford University 2015-2016















"What's your Samford story?"

It's a question incoming freshmen consider as they imagine what the next four years might hold, a question sophomores and juniors answer as they put down roots in this place they've begun to call home, a question seniors reflect on as they make the most of their final months before graduation. It's a question that faculty and professors watch unfold both in their classrooms and in their own lives.

So, the question remains. What is your Samford story?

Something special happens when the Samford community comes together in moments of celebration or moments of challenge, in moments of togetherness or moments of growth. These moments and experiences facilitate friendships and relationships that last far beyond our college years, far beyond the events and moments themselves.

Whether through an organization, a sports team, an insightful class, a study abroad adventure or a leadership opportunity, this place changes us. It affects growth and presents challenges that shape its students, professors and faculty through the relationships we build here.

Entre Nous seeks to simply tell the story of those relationships and interactions that characterize the Samford experience. This year's book is meant to be read like a story – the story of your year.

As you flip through these pages, I hope you'll look back on the past year as fondly as we have. I hope you will recall the eventful months, August through May, each of the memories you made, and the relationships you built along the way.

Claire Per-Lee, Editor-In-Chief



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#### Summer Orientation

As a new group of incoming freshmen made the transition into college life, students were introduced to all aspects of a well-rounded Samford experience, both on campus and within the greater Birmingham community. Students were encouraged to pursue opportunities for personal, academic and spiritual growth as they discovered all that campus life had to offer.

"At Orientation I got to meet a ton of people and get a feel for what Samford would be like. I loved going to the breakout sessions; learning how to swing dance was my favorite," freshman nursing major Lauren Echols said.

After a warm welcome by President Andrew Westmoreland, families continued to explore the school. In addition to the Sweet Home Samford fair in the Pete Hanna Center, students and parents attended a series of sessions about how to take advantage of the unique opportunities offered at Samford, as well as how to make decisions along the way that would shape each of their college experiences. The sessions' topics spanned from campus life to greek life, study abroad to athletics, and, of course, Step Sing.

"Orientation was a great transition into life at Samford. The community we built in our orientation group has extended into my first few months at Samford," freshman English education major Madison Webster said. "Orientation was a great snapshot of a four-year Samford experience in less than two days."

After attending sessions and exploring campus, students built their first college schedule and registered for classes. Planning out the first semester of classes was both exciting and overwhelming, but the newest additions to the Bulldog family were in good hands with faculty and Orientation Leaders guiding students every step of the way.

"I enjoyed getting to work closely with the faculty and staff across many different departments and majors," senior orientation leader and interior design major Molly McCoy said. "Getting to see the behind-the-scenes elements of our school has helped me appreciate the investment that these men and women play in the lives of our students. As an orientation leader, I was challenged to be vulnerable and encouraged to be a unique individual. Being an orientation leader helped me realize just how meaningful relationships can be and has validated the importance of investing in people and having them pour back into you."

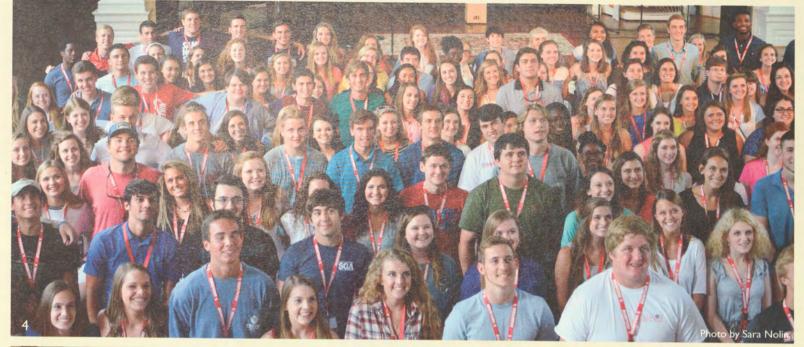
Orientation came to a close as students and parents gathered in Reid Chapel for a time of worship and reflection. Parents and students alike found peace as they invited the Holy Spirit to guide them into this new season.







I. Orientation leader Molly McCoy poses with her group of incoming freshmen, Group 8, between sessions and activities. 2. Cameron Gonzalez prepares students for their schedule for their first semester at Samford. 3. Students gather on the quad to get to know one







4. A new group of Samford Bulldogs gathers in Reid Chapel after a time of worship, bringing their orientation experience to an end. 5. Students listen intently to instructions about class registration. 6. Students in Group 6 smile with their leader, Brianna Walker, while strolling to the next activity of the day. 7. Elizabeth Poulos poses with her excited group of freshmen, generating plenty of Group 2 spirit. 8. Ashley Lyon skips across the quad with her orientation group, after several rounds of ice breakers and get-to-know-you games to facilitate new friendships among students.















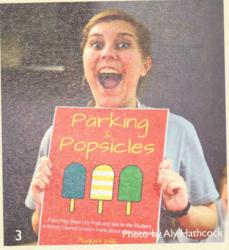














I. Freshmen pose with their Connections group sign, ready for the weekend. 2. New friends get to know each other better at the Barons game. 3. Kelsey Robertson informs freshmen about the weekend's events as they arrive. 4. Students worship together in Reid Chapel on Sunday morning. 5. Joanne Hughes has breakfast with her Connections group in Harry's. 6. Freshmen boys escort the girls from the steps of Vail to the neon party after the traditional serenade. 7. Aubrey Johnston excitedly awaits her Connections group in Ben Brown. 8. Connections group 41 smiles for a photo on the quad to kick off the weekend. 9. Freshmen sit with their new friends and enjoy an evening of baseball as they get to know their new city. 10. Abi Kania smiles with members of her Connections group at the Baron's game. II. Will Lundy escorts RAs Natalie Marshall and Caroline Tudor to the neon party. 12. Freshmen dance the night away at the party. 13. Nils Wendland helps freshmen move into Smith.



#### Connections

Onnections weekend was a time for incoming freshman to get situated into college life. This action-packed weekend began in August when new students arrived on campus to move into their dorm rooms; however, Connections coordinators and leaders began preparing for this weekend long before new students arrived on campus.

Connections coordinators carefully selected 90 student leaders through an extensive application and interview process. The chosen leaders arrived on campus for training a few days before move-in day. During this time, leaders prepared themselves to serve as mentors for incoming students during a time of transition.

"Samford does an incredible job welcoming the freshmen every year, and I love being a small part of it," said junior elementary education major and Connections leader Dabney Chitwood.

Friday night was the Connections Kickoff where the students gathered on the quad to meet their Connections leaders and the other students in their group. The overarching purpose of this event was to give the new students an idea of what living in Birmingham would be like. Each group ventured downtown for a Birmingham Barons game at Regions Field

to kick off the weekend.

"This weekend was the perfect transition into college life because it gave me the opportunity to meet my class as well as the chance to dive into college life," said freshman pre-law major Corey Kalish.

On Saturday, students attended seminars that provided helpful information on ways to get involved at Samford. Students then got an opportunity to explore campus on their own until it was time to visit Dr. Westmoreland's house for an ice cream social. The night was capped off with a neon dance party for all incoming freshman hosted by the Connections leaders.

On Sunday, a special worship service was held in Reid Chapel followed by Samford's annual Dinner on the Dirt picnic and Your School, Your City welcome back concert later that evening.

"I think Connections is such a tangible example of what Samford's community represents," said junior psychology major and Connections coordinator Jordan Simpson. "It is a special thing to witness the student body, faculty and staff of a university prayerfully plan and prepare for a new class of students."

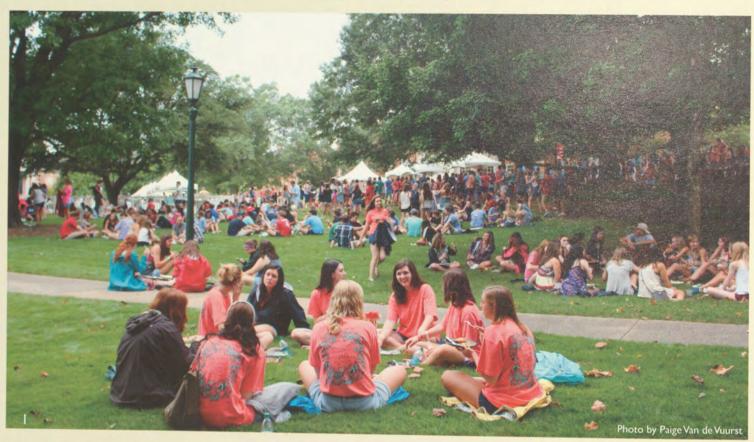






14. Connections leaders strike a pose while waiting to kick off the weekend's festivities. 15. Groups gather on the quad and get to know one another as the weekend begins. 16. Freshmen meet in the Pittman common area to get to know their RA and experience their first hall meeting.

#### Welcome Back Week



August 16 marked the beginning of a new semester at Samford. Welcome Back Week kicked off with the annual Dinner on the Dirt and Your School, Your City concert, which featured John Hancock Band, Penny and Sparrow, Judah and the Lion and Johnnyswim. Students reunited with friends and spent the week preparing for all that the semester had in store.

"It was amazing to see the Samford community come back together," said freshman pre-business major Cameron Dobbins. "Watching old friends see each other for the first time in months made me realize the strong friendships kindled here at Samford."

During Welcome Back Week, the Student Government Association partnered with Samford Dining to host a picnic dinner where students could catch up and enter to win prize giveaways.

"The food for the picnic is always my favorite part!" said senior journalism and mass communication major Sarah Korta. "The best part is that if you're still hungry or craving something else, there are plenty of tents from local vendors offering free food and coupons."

While a storm moved through just in time for the concert, the weather did not prevent students from participating in the yearly tradition. Students

pulled out their umbrellas, and when their rain gear was no longer able to keep them dry, they began to dance in the rain.

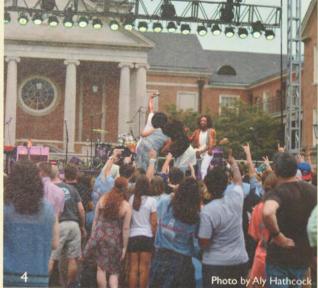
The festivities did not end with the concert on Sunday; Student Activities Council planned fun activities for every day of the week. Students who walked through Ben Brown Plaza on Monday were greeted with inflatable defender dodgeball and the Greg's Hot Dogs stand. Tuesday morning there were bagels served in Ben Brown to students on their way to class or the first convocation of the semester. Wednesday featured "Random Acts of Hubness," where students enjoyed ice cream from Big Spoon Creamery. On Thursday, students took pictures in a photo booth on Ben Brown, enjoyed cookies from Icing on the Cookie and ended the day watching a movie on the quad. Welcome Back Week came to a close on "Food Truck Friday," August 21, as Samford hosted Shindigs and Doodles in Ben Brown Plaza.

"Welcome Back Week is a great Samford tradition that focuses on welcoming back returning students and introducing new students to the Birmingham area," said Julia Simmons, senior history major and director of annual events. "The Student Activities Council strives to plan events that will get students excited about starting a new school year."



ARTICLE BY HANNAH GARRETT

















1. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and visitors enjoy Dinner on the Dirt. 2. Students gather around the Ben Brown fountain to eat dinner and catch up with friends. 3. Students are all smiles as they visit the tents of local vendors while they wait for the concert to begin. 4. The band pauses to take a selfie with students gathered to enjoy the concert. 5. While they wait, some concert goers try out campus recreation's newest activity, Bubble Soccer. 6. To kick off the concert, Penny & Sparrow take the stage and serenade the crowd with songs about life and love. 7. Grace Miserocchi, Kristen Shircliff and Elise Leveille brave the weather to enjoy the dinner, vendors and concert on the quad. 8. Students play an exciting game of Spike Ball on the quad before the concert. 9. Husband and wife duo, Johnnyswim, braves the rain and takes the stage. 10. Friends smile for a photo, happy to be reunited after the summer.















#### Football Season Begins

The Birmingham sun set as the lights over Seibert Stadium illuminated the field, and 6,529 football fans filled the stands of Seibert Stadium. The newest member of the Samford football family took the field to lead the bulldogs to their first victory of the season: Coach Chris Hatcher. Not only were the stands filled, but ESPN3 also covered the early September matchup between the Samford Bulldogs and the University of Central Arkansas Bears.

"This game day atmosphere was the best I've been a part of at Samford. It was filled with excitement and curiosity being that a new coach was there," said Michael Eubank, senior quarterback and communication studies major.

The Bulldogs dominated the offensive side of the ball with 536 total yards. Eubank completed 21-of-37 passes for a career high of 372 yards and four touchdowns. Eubank completed touchdown throws of 66, 55, 35 and 16 yards.

"He led the team well. He did a great job before the game of getting the team fired up. He went out there and was very accurate; he threw the deep ball exceptionally well," said head football coach Chris Hatcher.

High expectations were set for the season, both for the new coach and for the Bulldogs.

"Coming into the first game of the year under Coach Hatcher, we were pretty confident that if we played our best and UCA played their best, we would come out with a W," Gunnar Bromelow, senior offensive tackle and accounting major, said. "It was just a mentality and an energy that Coach Hatcher brought with him that made you want to go hard for the entire 60 minutes of the game."

After months of preparation for the opening kickoff, Hatcher led his team to a 45 to 16 win over University of Central Arkansas to set the tone for the 2015 football season. The Bulldogs ended up clinching a winning season record of six to five.



I. Senior quarterback Michael Eubank sets up to throw the ball for a play. 2. Samford sets up a solid block against University of Central Arkansas. 3. Senior Anthony Pistelli prepares to kick a field goal for the extra point. 4. Cheerleaders get the crowd excited for the home opener football game. 5. The Samford defensive line tackles one of the players on the opposing team to stop Central Arkansas from getting a first down. 6. During a timeout, the football players huddle to discuss strategy for the game. 7. Moses and the Red Sea lead the crowd in support of the Bulldogs. 8. Samford's defensive team block a throw and attack the opponent's offensive line.

#### Cooney Hall Unveiled



The Brock School of Business moved into its new home, Cooney Hall, in early September.

At four stories and complete with an open glass atrium and fourth-floor terrace, the new building at the top of the hill was a beautiful addition to campus in the fall semester.

The building included state-of-the-art equipment, technology-equipped classrooms and meeting areas, a student-run business incubator and a portfolio management room that included six Bloomberg terminals.

Fall semester classes began as the paint was still drying in some areas of the building, but students were excited to make the move.

"The whole building was so well-thought-out," senior finance and sports marketing major Drew Jackson said. "It's remarkable."

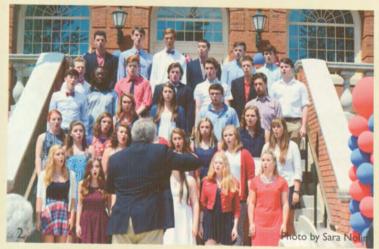
Among the building's amenities were common areas and study spaces for students and faculty alike, as well as a large conference meeting space seating nearly 400 that was open to both the Samford and Birmingham communities. Located behind the Harwell G. Davis University Library, the building was officially named after 1974 Samford graduate and board of overseers member Gary M. Cooney.

Cooney and his family donated \$12.5 million of the \$25 million price tag for the construction of the new building, leading the board of trustees to what University President Andrew Westmoreland said was an easy decision.

"His loyalty to Samford is beyond anything that I can describe or imagine," Westmoreland said in his remarks at the dedication ceremony.

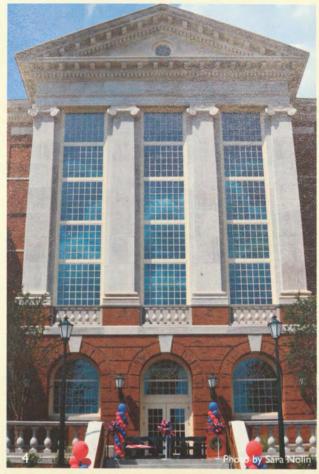
Many, including Dean Howard Finch, said they think the building will have a large impact on students for years to come.

"It's a testament to the fact that education is the most important thing we do at Samford," Finch said. "The students that are here, the students that are coming and the students that aren't born yet will benefit from the quality of the facilities."





ARTICLE BY EMILY FEATHERSTON









1. Samford Student Government Association President, Laura Ann Prickett, helps cut the ribbon at Cooney Hall's official opening. 2. The A Cappella Choir sings on the steps of Cooney Hall as part of the ceremony. 3. Randy Pittman expresses his excitement about the opening of the new business building. 4. Cooney hall is adorned with festive Samford blue and red balloons and ribbons in recognition of the monumentous event. 5. Attendees excitedly await the ribbon cutting during the ceremony. 6. Buck Brock proudly holds the official ribbon cutting scissors and poses inside the new business school. 7. President Andrew Westmoreland addresses attendees at the Cooney Hall ceremony. 8. Business students attend class in the new business school, fully equipped with a stateof-the-art computer lab. 9. Mary Margaret Roeling works on an assignment in the business school computer lab alongside classmates.





#### Recruitment

Recruitment provided the opportunity for each potential new member (PNM) to discover his or her opportunities for service, leadership, scholarship and personal development within Greek life. During recruitment, each PNM was able to share what he or she may contribute to the overall mission and goals of each sorority or fraternity while engaging in various rounds of activities.

An array of talents and achievements were showcased in each sorority house through song, slideshows and testimonies. It was the perfect opportunity for each sorority chapter to share the unique aspects of their Greek organization. Each sorority house spent countless hours preparing for these few days of rush in order to best exemplify all that their sisterhood embodied.

"Recruitment was such a wonderful experience," junior religion major Haley Thornton said. "Not only did I get to know the people in my sorority better, but I also got to welcome our new pledge class. Seeing our new pledge class and getting to know them as friends has made the experience 100% worth it."

During fraternity recruitment, PNMs were invited to visit the fraternity houses for mixing and mingling in order to learn more about the organizations. Some fraternities featured a cigar night while others hosted a "fight night," which included a blowup boxing ring where PNMs fought one another with inflatable boxing gloves. Other houses kept recruitment parties more low-key

with food and discussion.

Bid day marked the day sororities welcomed the newest additions home to their organizations, as new members ran to the quad into the arms of their new sisters. Bid day themes spanned from Galaxy to Baseball.

The fun did not stop on the quad, however. Each sorority took their new pledge class to participate in fun activities around Birmingham, such as cosmic bowling or a birthday party-themed bash at a local venue. Pledge class sizes were record-breaking, with some houses gaining 75 new members and bringing that many more friendly smiling faces into the house.

"Rushing Alpha Omicron Pi is easily one of the best decisions I have ever made," said freshman early childhood education major Lauren Taylor. "I feel so loved and at home with all of my amazing sisters, and I wouldn't trade the experiences I have already had in this amazing sisterhood for the world."

Fraternity bid day ran a little differently than sorority bid day. On the morning of fraternity bid day, new members received their invitations into their respective fraternities and later walked out of Reid Chapel to meet their new brothers waiting for them on the quad. Each fraternity's numbers continue to climb each year. Following this year's formal recruitment, Samford's fraternities collectively had 418 new members.

"Rush was a fast four days with a lot of handshakes and even more fried chicken," freshman French major Tate Sutter said.





ARTICLE BY KRISTEN JACKSON















I. Cheers and excited shouts can be heard across campus as the Greek community gathers on the quad to welcome new members home to their respective sororities. 2. Lizzie Wells and Elizabeth Mullins pose with their Rho Gamma group just before revealing their letters, ending their disaffiliation and and celebrating their girls receiving bids. 3. Sarah Summa, Caroline Johnson, Marisa Nunez, Margaret Hehir and Emily Scott pose outside the Phi Mu house as they prepare for the final round of recruitment. 4. Ashley Mealins and Katy Blackburn celebrate together on the quad, exemplifying Greek unity for bid day. 5. Mary Catherine Mitchell, Leah Frantz, Alice Carter and Olivia Crozier snap a selfie on the quad amid the bid day festivities. 6. Langley Dillenberger and JoAnn Hughes anxiously wait for their new members and previously disaffiliated sisters to run home. 7. Rho Gammas Brittany Bisese and Megan Richards dress up like minions during recruitment. 8. Sisters of Alpha Delta Pi cannot wait to celebrate Bid Day with their new sisters. 9. Kennan Heinz, Ruth Blackburn, Abbey Weston and Emily Jackson show off their new letters having accepted their bids from Chi Omega.



















1. Lindsey Hancock enjoys the Family Weekend tailgate with her dad. 2. Students visit the different tailgates and introduce family members and friends. 3. Families take turns posing with Mr. smiles as she shares Samford with her mom, grandmother and sister. 7. Grandparents relax in the shade at the tailgate. 8. Students make sure to take a family photo in their Samford colors to Nugent takes a picture with her mom. 12. Parents sport their matching t-shirts to the tailgate, supporting their Samford student. 13. Family members and friends find some shade under a

#### Family Weekend









Family Weekend took place from Friday, September 18 to Sunday, September 20. Though an annual tradition for the Samford Community, the department of parent programs decided to develop a theme that made the 2015 Family Weekend an experience unlike any seen in the past. The theme, "Home is Here," provided the opportunity to host a wide variety of activities, embracing the different age groups on campus for the weekend.

"Family Weekend Academy" allowed parents to experience classes at the university just as their students did on a daily basis. Faculty members taught a multitude of classes, each representing a different undergraduate school. Parents showed full participation in both of these two-hour sessions, and some even asked for homework to do ahead of time.

"We did this because it is easy for parents to participate in sports and arts, but there is no easy access for parents to experience the academic side of Samford," said Susan Doyle, Director of Parent Programs.

The Tiny Sam Photo Scavenger Hunt was a game geared toward younger family members. The goal of the hunt was to identify 30 photos on the Quad; the lucky winner received a Step Sing weekend prize package, which included tickets, a hotel stay and dinner.

"I loved having my parents in town to share in my final year at Samford," said senior communications sciences and disorders major Spencer Cast. "We

enjoyed participating in all of the events and activities on campus."

Furthermore, a photo booth for Christmas cards was set up so that families could take advantage of being with their college students for the weekend. The Samford family with the best photo was provided with 100 free Christmas card prints to send out for the holiday season. Continuing in the holiday spirit, Waldo, the Samford Parent Association's pop-up store, sold glass-blown Christmas ornaments from Poland that depicted Samford's own Lighting of the Way.

On Saturday, the Bulldogs played the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Parent groups from Birmingham, Nashville, Dallas, Orlando, Jacksonville and Atlanta organized tents on the Quad to tailgate before the football game.

"My parents set up a tent on the quad with the Birmingham parents group. Everyone was talking and enjoying a fun day introducing their parents to friends at Samford," said Melissa Junkins, junior family studies major.

Family Weekend concluded with the annual Samford Hymn Sing in Reid Chapel on Sunday afternoon. The weekend had an assortment of activities, each representing a different essential aspect of life at Samford University: all-encompassing, spiritually-based days with motivations of social and academic excellence.

ARTICLE BY NATALIE CERASOLI



### October

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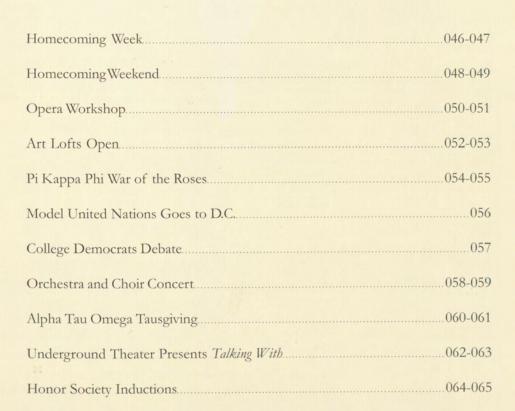
Volleyball Senior Night	024-025
Chi Omega Wish Week	026-027
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Miss Samford	030-031
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Zeta Tau Alpha Think Pink Jam.	038-039
Crew Scrimmage at Auburn	040-041
National Pan-Hellenic Council Week	042-043
Marching Band and Color Guard	044-045

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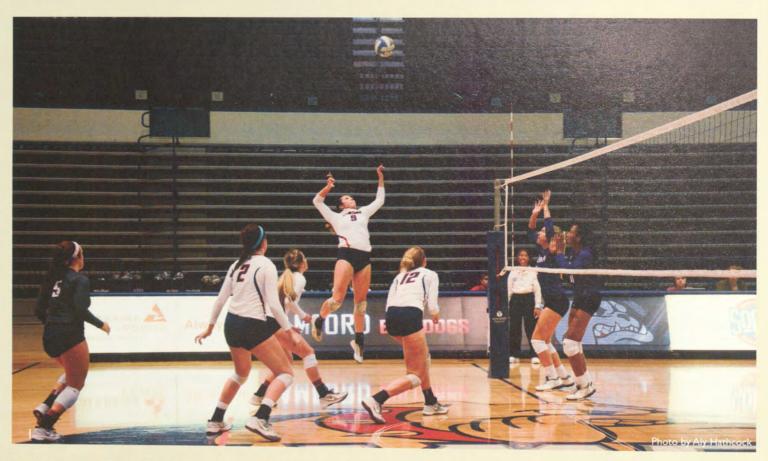


## November





#### Volleyball Senior Night



The Samford Bulldog volleyball team and senior Emily Meitz closed out their season with a big win over their conference opponent, Furman University.

Not only did the Bulldogs have a 3-0 streak to defend, they had a teammate to celebrate. Emily Meitz, a senior environmental science major from St. Louis, Missouri, was honored for her final home game in her Bulldog uniform.

"That night was a very big night for us because it was against Furman, and it was senior night," said Morgan St. Germain, junior elementary education major and top defender. "The team's goal was to play our best for one person, and that was Emily."

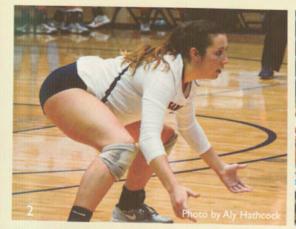
The Bulldogs swept the Paladins in three sets (25-18, 25-22, 25-20). Emily Meitz contributed to the win with four kills on five attacks (.800). She was a key player on offense for the Bulldogs.

"The environment in the gym was amazing," said T.J. Russel, senior sports administration major. "Morgan St. Germain came up big for us that night with amazing digs to get us in our offensive system to run at Furman. We stayed focused and were determined to make plays to win each set."

The team played like a family all season long; the team even reserved the last point of the game for Meitz. "My teammates, coaches and family made that night a very special one for me," said Meitz.

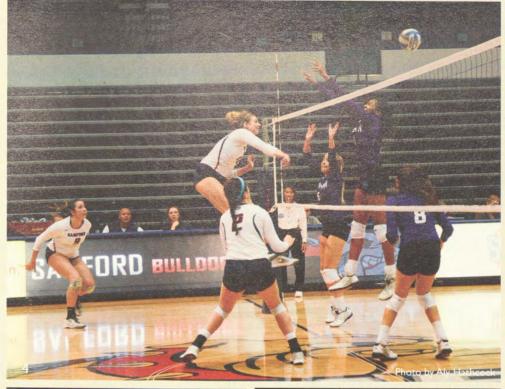
"Emily played lights out that night and really contributed a lot to the team," said St. Germain. "I know that was all she wanted was to win for her senior night."

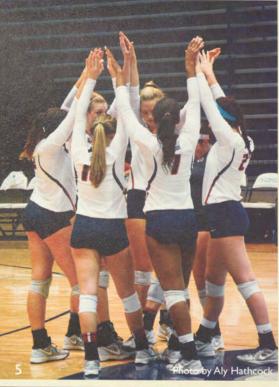
"The atmosphere was so fun to play in that night," said Meitz, "and beating the top ranked team in the conference didn't hurt."





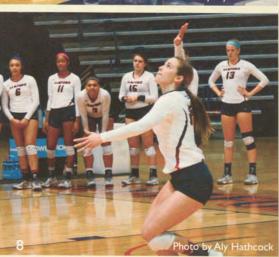
ARTICLE BY SYDNEE WISLER

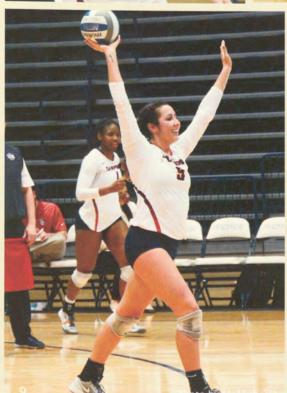














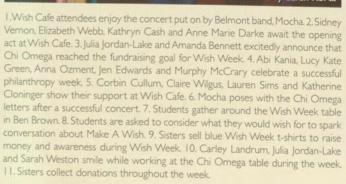
I. Freshman Kate Neisler is set up for a spike while her teammates cover her in case of a block. 2. Neisler is ready for a return from Furman. 3. Freshman Taylor Anderton and sophomore T.J. Russell follow their opponents on the net and prepare for a block. 4. Senior Emily Meitz spikes the ball and passes through Furman's block for a middle hit. 5. The Bulldogs huddle in preparation for their match against Furman. 6. Junior Erin Bognar hustles on the court to battle against Furman. 7. During a timeout, the team huddles to discuss their game plan. 8. Freshman Krista Boesing sets up to serve in hopes of an ace. 9. Neisler gets ready to serve against Furman. 10. Anderton, Meitz, Neisler and Bognar, followed by the rest of the team, line up to shake hands with Furman players after their senior night win.









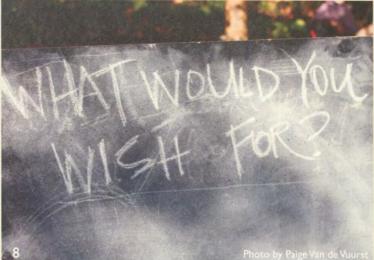






#### Wish Week





The sisters of Chi Omega hosted their annual Wish Week October 5-8. All proceeds from the week benefited the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Chi Omega's national philanthropy. The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to granting wishes to children with serious medical conditions. According to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, it costs over \$9,000 to grant an average wish. Each year, Chi Omega strives to grant one or more wishes for deserving children. This year, Chi Omega raised over \$7,000 during one week for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"I am so thankful to the Samford community for coming out to some many of our events," said Julia Jordan Lake, junior psychology major and Chi Omega philanthropy co-chair. "Supporting these kids together is one of the best ways to bond!"

Throughout the week, Chi Omega sisters hosted a variety of events in Harry's Coffeehouse and Ben Brown Plaza. Events included a Chipotle fundraiser, Fish for a Wish, Waffles for Wishes and Wish Cafe. Sorority members also sold Seeds coffee, muffins and Wish Cafe tickets in Ben Brown Plaza during the week.

"My favorite part about Wish Week was getting to share our philanthropy and having other students around campus be part of it, too," said Elizabeth Snyder, senior nutrition and dietetics major. "Chips and queso, music and supporting a great cause is a dream come true!"

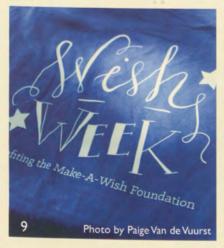
Chi Omega ended the week with Wish Cafe. With the price of

admission, Wish Cafe attendees were treated to an array of refreshments while listening to musical performances. Students JoAnna Little, Anna Rogers and Morgan Cochran performed covers of popular songs. In addition, Chi Omega recruited Mocha, a student R&B band from Belmont University, to close the show. Mocha covered songs by artists such as Justin Timberlake, Prince and Beyoncé.

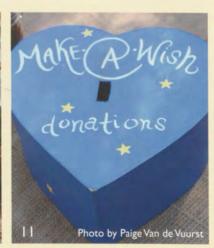
"Wish Cafe was such a fun event," said senior journalism and mass communication major Lauren Sims. "It was great to see so many people come out to support this awesome cause."

Along with Wish Week, Chi Omega also hosted a number of other fundraising events including the Chi Omega Wish Closet. New and gently used clothing were donated and arranged like a consignment store. The event was open to the entire Samford and Birmingham community. In addition to formal fundraising events, Chi Omega conducted a letter writing campaign for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Letters asking for donations were sent to friends and family of Chi Omega sisters.

This year's Wish Week, however, was the last formal week of philanthropy events. For the future, Chi Omega plans on hosting other philanthropy events throughout the year like Chi O Closet and Chi O Carnival. No matter the event, Chi Omega has flourished in their partnership with the Make-A-Wish Foundation.







ARTICLE BY SARAH KORTA

#### Greek Draft

The athletic department and the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) hosted the Greek Draft on October 7. Members of SAAC identify student-athlete issues, encourage community outreach and implement different SAAC initiatives throughout the year. This event in particular was designed to build relationships between student-athletes and other student groups on campus.

The event was held in the Pete Hanna Center, and the seats quickly filled up as members of nearly every Greek organization filed into the arena. Athletic Director Martin Newton and Samford SAAC president and senior finance major Richard Greene kicked off the event by addressing the crowd and explaining the purpose of and timeline for the event. Organization participants were then paired with athletes who acted as their coaches during a series of fast-paced, "minute to win it" games. The order in which organizations finished determined the order of draft selection later in the evening.

"Participants from all of the organizations showed up and were really excited," said Mary Kate Thomas, senior marketing and social entrepreneurship major. "After drafting the teams, the Greek organizations got to meet their team and hang out with them, which was super fun."

The brothers of Sigma Nu won the "minute to win it" games and picked

first in the draft, choosing women's soccer as their team. The rest of the organizations followed suit until all of the athletics teams had been adopted by a Greek organization. After the draft, everyone took group pictures and planned ways to better support each other's games, matches and events.

"The draft was a smashing success," Greene said. "Positive feedback was received across the board. We have been contacted by other universities asking to know more information because they believe it is a fantastic event to better unite athletics and the student body."

Since the draft, athletics saw an increase in attendance by the Greek community at games and matches. Greek events and mixers with athletics throughout the rest of the year also strengthened relationships between student-athletes and their peers.

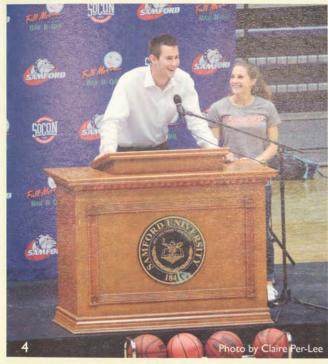
"The Greek Draft was an exciting event! I am so proud of the students who took the initiative to build relationships between fraternities, sororities and Samford athletics," Greek life director Julie Fletcher said. "Greek life and Samford athletics are two large populations of students. These students are thriving as leaders and scholars, so it is great to see them have some fun together."







I. Multiple sororities and fraternities fill the Pete Hanna Center to compete against each other in minute to win it games. The results of the games determined the order in which basketball team huddle together for a cheer in celebration of partnering together for the year.





4. Seniors Richard Greene, catcher for the baseball team, and Kimberly Ruch, track and field sprinter and jumper, start off the Greek Draft with a welcome speech and instructions. 5. Sigma Nus huddle to discuss how they will dominate the Greek Draft. 6. Junior Sigma Chi Richard Barnes focuses on moving an Oreo from his forehead to his mouth without using his hands, as senior Josh Carter cheers him on. 7. Phi Mu sisters pose with their draft pick, the men's tennis team. 8. Alpha Omicron Pi huddles together to discuss their game strategy. 9. The scoreboard keeps time for each game. 10. Track and field and NPHC smile and celebrate their new partnership. 11. The women's basketball team hits the quan and gets the crowd excited during the Greek Draft. 12. Phi Mu participates in a game where they have to wrap a teammate in toilet















#### Miss Samford





Samford hosted the Miss Samford pageant Thursday, October 8, at the Wright Center Concert Hall. Seven students participated in the pageant, representing a broad spectrum of majors, ages and campus organizations.

"I enjoyed getting to see the different passions at Samford represented in the contestants' talents and platforms," said Natalie Wills, junior nursing major.

After competing in several different categories of the pageant, including interviews, swimwear, talent and evening wear, the judges calculated the women's scores. Senior nursing major Karen McCall won the talent award for her dance presentation of "Somebody to Love."

The Spirit of Samford award, which was voted on by both pageant staff and contestants, was awarded to Grace Okoro, a senior psychology major. The other women agreed that Okoro was very deserving of the recognition.

"Grace was the most encouraging contestant," said Ford of her fellow contestant. "She brought a fun, relaxed atmosphere to the stress and anxiety we were all feeling."

The second runner up of the competition was Aly York, a freshman pre-

pharmacy major, and the first runner up was Riley Ford, a junior communication studies major. Allyson Nuwayhid, a sophomore education major, was crowned Miss Samford University 2016, after also winning the swimsuit portion of the pageant. Nuwayhid's talent presentation was a Bollywood dance, the Dhoom Taana. The Huntsville native, whose pageant platform was "Investing in the Leaders of Tomorrow," began using her crown to make a difference in the community right away.

"The most rewarding part of being Miss Samford has been being able to make an impact in the community around me," said Nuwayhid. "I want the youth of today to understand that no dream is ever too big if you work hard and believe in yourself."

Nuwayhid also began preparing to represent Samford in the Miss Alabama scholarship pageant in June 2016.

"Preparing for Miss Alabama can be a little overwhelming at times, but when that happens, I just have to step back and remember my purpose: to make a difference in the youth today," said Nuwayhid.





ARTICLE BY NATALIE CERASOLI



I. Miss Samford participants smile and wave to the audience at the close of the pageant. 2. Allyson Nuwayhid is crowned the new Miss Samford. 3. The six other Miss Samford participants congratulate Nuwayhid upon receiving her crown. 4. Judges deliberate and consider each of the participants' talents. 5. Riley Ford gracefully dances for the talent portion of the pageant. 6. Former Miss Samford Madison Smith presents Grace Okoro with the Spirit of Samford award, voted on by contestants and pageant staff. 7. Karen McCall answers a question on stage for the on-stage question portion of the pageant. 8. The Miss Samford emcees pause to take a selfie between the different pageant competitions. 9. Ally York has a blast showing off her dance moves for the talent portion. 10. Kaileigh Cartmill waits while her question is read. 11. Heather Nolin displays her impressive talent. 12. Nuwayhid performs a Bollywood dance, "Dhoom Taana."

#### Smoke Out Arthritis

Throughout a week in October, "Alpha Omicron Pi, Rho Delta Chapter, held its first 'AOII Goes Blue Week' to raise awareness for Juvenile Arthritis," said junior biology major and Alpha Omicron Pi philanthropy chair Mary-Catherine Mitchell.

Juvenile Arthritis is a little-known autoimmune disorder that affects children under the age of 18. Almost 295,000 kids are diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis or different rheumatic conditions. The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi took their philanthropy seriously and hoped to raise a large amount of money to help those with Juvenile Arthritis in the Birmingham area.

One of the main events featured for AOII Goes Blue Week was their Pie a Pi event. For Pie a Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi teamed up with Pi Kappa Phi, as students paid \$3 to throw whipped cream pies at a members of each of the two organizations. The event was messy, however both organizations had a blast and hoped to create a tradition that would continue for years to come.

"During convocation hour, our sisters partnered with the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi to raise money through a pie-throwing booth benefitting both the Arthritis Foundation and PUSH America," Mitchell said.

To end the week, Alpha Omicron Pi hosted the annual Smoke Out

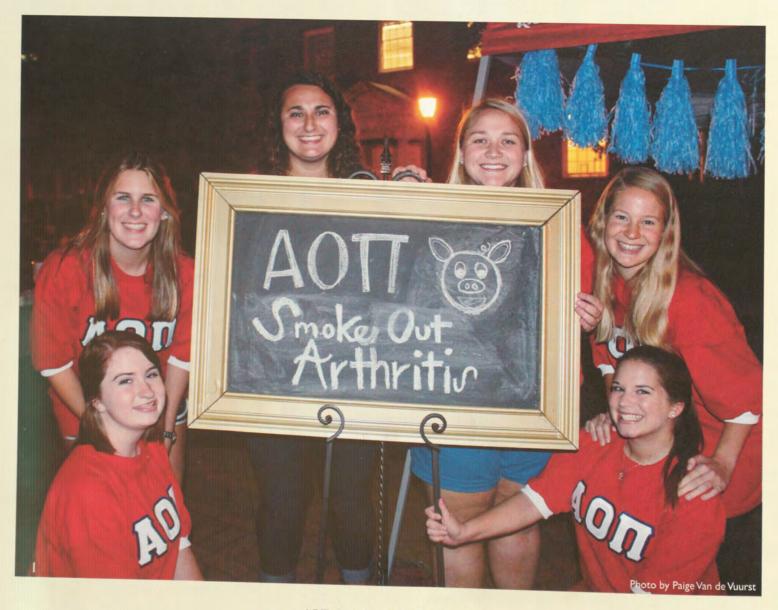
Arthritis dinner around the Cumberland Law Fountain. Students from all over campus came out to enjoy good food and to support an even better cause.

"Smoke Out Arthritis is an AOII tradition that we get to enjoy every fall," said junior journalism and mass communication major Olivia Williams. "It's a great time to hang out with our sisters and friends in the Samford community while supporting the Arthritis Foundation. Arthritis affects people of all ages, young and old, so it's great to know that the proceeds from this event are helping find a cure for this awful disease."

Barbecue, coleslaw, ribs and grits were served, everything expected for good Southern cooked meal.

"All proceeds went directly to support the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation of Birmingham," said junior religion major Farrah Karimi. "We all had a great time enjoying barbecue and watching the Samford body come together to support this cause."

AOII Goes Blue Week was a tremendous success, an enjoyable time for the sorority and for those who attended the fundraiser. AOII ended up raising \$3,000 for the Birmingham Arthritis Foundation and helped spread awareness of Arthritis across campus as a whole.



ARTICLE BY RUTH FLEENOR





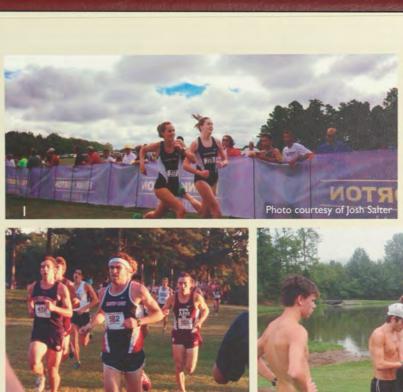




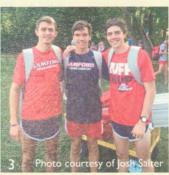




I. Taylor Gabriel, Rebecca Hampton, Farrah Karimi, Madison Browder, Laura Markham and Jane Todd Betz greet students at the Strike Out Arthritis Event in the Law Plaza, 2. Amanda Carlson and Maria Papadopoulos relax by the fountain and enjoy their barbecue dinner surrounded by sisters and friends. 3. Guests enjoy Full Moon Barbecue, snacks and drinks. 4. AOII sisters and guests gather in the Law Plaza to enjoy a night of food, fellowship and philanthropy. 5. Students and faculty take advantage of the chance to "Pie a Pi" during AOII Goes Blue Week. 6. Bethany Laskin pies fellow AOII, Ann Martin Foley to raise money for their philanthropy. 7. Mary Beth Blankinship and Sara Robertson are all smiles as they staff the food table at Smoke Out Arthritis.























I. Ansley Bos and Emma Garner run together during the race. 2. Emma Garner, Karisa Nelson, Megan Roach and Natalie Johnston show their Bulldog pride. 3. Josh Salter, Ben Bryant and Owen Bailey smile, ready for a run. 4. Adam Jones runs against other teams at the race and represents Samford well. 5. The Cross Country boys get ready for a long run as part of practice and preparation for their meets. 6. Arsène Guillorel smiles proudly after receiving an award. 7. The girls start the race strong, fighting to outrun competitors. 8. The boys recognized for their hard work. 11. Guillorel flies past spectators, making record time.

#### Cross Country Crimson Classic



The University of Alabama hosted the Crimson Classic at the Harry Pritchett Course on October 16, and the Bulldogs showed up ready for a fight.

"The most important thing to remember on a very challenging, hilly course is that the person next to you is suffering, too; they are running up the same exact hill you are," Karisa Nelson, sophomore biochemistry major, said. "If they can do it, you can do it."

Nelson ran with endurance and finished 26th overall out of 234 women. This was a great improvement for Nelson because she beat her time on this course from last year.

"If it's not painful, then it's not cross country," said Arsene Guillorel, sophomore economics major. Guillorel ran and placed fourth overall out of 218 men.

Both men and women's teams fought hard in the Crimson Classic meet and enjoyed running on the Harry Pritchett course.

"We're looking forward to coming back here to race at the NCAA Regional meet. That's when it counts," said Kevin Ondrasek, head cross country coach.

The women's cross country team received 522 points, which placed them 21st overall, and the men's team received 336 points, which placed them 13th overall.

The season ended with amazing performances by both Guillorel and Nelson. Guillorel placed first at the SoCon Cross Country Championships where he became the first individual men's conference champion for the Bulldogs. Nelson placed in the top 10 at the championships, which gave her a spot on the All-SoCon Women's Second Team.

Guillorel placed second at the NCAA South Regionals and moved on to the NCAA Championships, where he finished 164th overall.

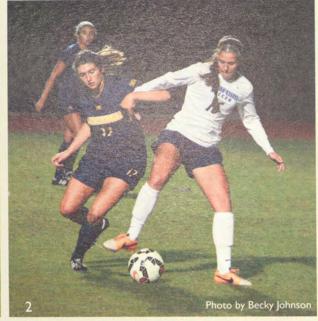
Men and women's track and field teams had a strong season, setting the team up for more successful seasons in coming years.



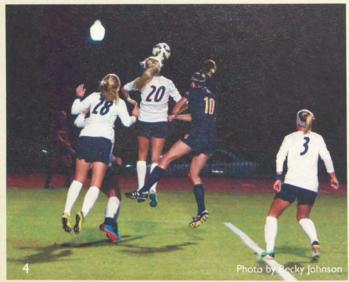


12. The girls smile under the Samford tent at the Crimson Classic meet. I 3. The team enjoys time downtown while traveling for a meet. I 4. Karisa Nelson concentrates and competes well for her team.

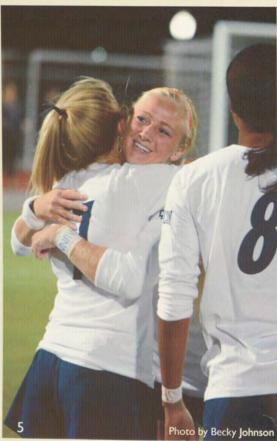








1. Seniors Alissa Hansen, Kinsey Sessions and Hallie Georgi are honored by their team and fans at center field for senior night. 2. Freshman Emma Thompson battles against a Chattanooga player for the ball. 3. Sophomore Virginia McNeill aggressively tackles the ball with heavy marking. 4. Sophomore Kaitlyn Orman and Georgi are jumping to head the ball and gain the offensive. 5. Teammates congratulate Georgi on her senior night performance. 6. Taylor Borman, junior forward, hustles to drive the ball toward the goal. 7. Freshman midfielder Stevie-Marie Mullins approaches the net for a goal. 8. Teammates show Georgi support as she comes out of the game. 9. Georgi aggressively approaches the ball for a





# Women's Soccer Senior Night

n October 16, the women's soccer team headed into senior night against the Chattanooga Mocs determined to remain undefeated in conference play. As the minutes ticked off the clock, the shutout streak grew to 673 minutes, the second largest shutout streak in school history. Senior defender Hallie Georgi scored the game-winning goal in a 3-0 win.

In addition to the game against Chattanooga, senior night recognized seniors who had given time and dedication to the program over the course of their four collegiate years.

"It's one of those things that you look forward to as a freshman and hope that it looks a certain way," said Kinsey Sessions, senior exercise science major. "I know what I will remember most is the sincerity with which our teammates and coaches congratulated us for making it through four years as a student athlete."

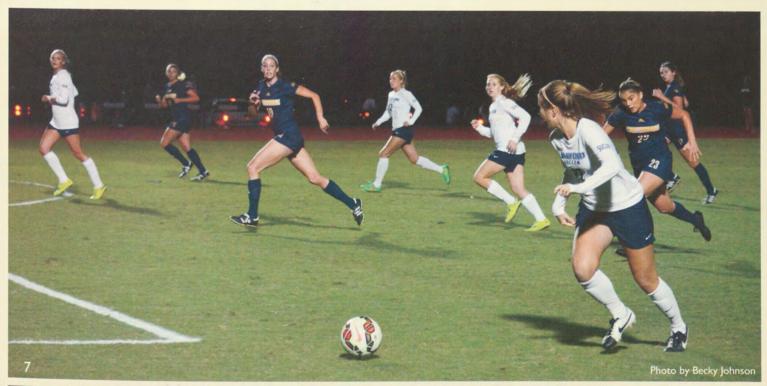
The women's soccer team finished their season with an overall record of 14-5-1 and won the SoCon championship title for the second year in a

row, advancing to the semifinals of the SoCon tournament. Ten members of the program received postseason All Southern Conference honors, a school record, and for the second consecutive year, head coach Todd Yelton was named SoCon Coach of the Year.

"This season presented many obstacles no one could have prepared our team for," said Alissa Hansen, senior human development and family science major. "As a defender, it was overwhelmingly exciting to be undefeated and have no goals scored against us until tournament time."

Defense played a huge role in the success of the team's season. After tournament play, the Bulldogs boasted an 8-to-1 record against conference teams, and junior Olivia Cole was named SoCon Defender of the Year.

"We battled through a ton of adversity and became really close as a team," said Virginia McNeill, sophomore elementary education major. "Even though this was a great season for us, we aren't satisfied; we are looking to go to the NCAA tournament during the 2016 season."







ARTICLE BY EMILY DUVAL



Photo by Claire Per-Lee

I. Katherine Estep, Hannah Garrett, Kelsey Clark, Ashley Steiner and Teya Lonquist spend their afternoon setting up decorations for the Think Pink Jam. 2. Kelsey Clark sells Hannah

Blackwell and Brandi Smalls show off their spirit by wearing Zeta fanny packs. 5. Mallory Killam, Taylor Gatlin and Bonnie Hankins put the final touches on the think pink photo booth

and early detection to help further breast cancer education and awareness. 8. Meriwether Burrell and Claire Per-Lee pose by the Think Pink photo booth. 9. Anne Marie Darke, Reagan

of Zeta sisters smiles after a successful concert. 12. Students arrive and congregate near the stage as the concert begins.

# Think Pink Jam



ne in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. The sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha supported their philanthropy throughout the year by Thinking Pink®, participating in service projects and facilitating fundraisers on campus and in the Birmingham community.

ZTA hosted the 2nd annual Think Pink Jam, one of its largest philanthropy fundraisers, at Samford's intramural fields complex October 22. The concert featured bands The Fourth Floor and Trotline. Food trucks, including Big Spoon Creamery, Chick-fil-A and Dreamcakes, helped Zeta raise over \$6,000 at the event through generous donations.

"Think Pink Jam was by far one of our favorite gigs because we got to play for some of our closest friends, and it was all for a great cause," said Ryan Johnson, sophomore biochemistry major and member of The Fourth Floor.

Food trucks lined the premises and lights were strung across the parking lot. Music could be heard from across the street, and as people filed into the complex, they were greeted by pink decorations everywhere and a Think Pink® themed photo booth, reminding students of the purpose behind the festivities.

"With the help of the Samford community and our sponsors, I am

confident that we were able to make a difference in the lives of those affected by breast cancer," said Katherine Estep, junior biology major. "I look forward to our efforts being continued for years to come."

Think Pink Jam was a celebration of the women who have survived breast cancer and served as a reminder of the effects this disease has on women across the globe. With students both affiliated with ZTA and not affiliated in attendance, the event provided a campus-wide opportunity for students to contribute to the cause. Breast Cancer Education and Awareness caught the attention of faculty and students alike, and with Ben Brown adorned with pink ribbons and the fountain dyed pink during October, ZTA succeeded in creating a heightened awareness of their philanthropy.

"I love our philanthropy because it hits close to home for me and my family personally, and I love the fact that ZTA allows me to share in raising awareness with my sisters about something I am so passionate about already!" said senior journalism and mass communication major Sydnee Wisler. "It's a great cause, and it affects so many people around us and within our chapter."





ARTICLE BY HANNAH GARRETT

# Crew Rows Through Auburn

Samford Crew, a student-led organization, competed with other university teams throughout the year. On October 24, the team participated in a scrimmage at Auburn's crew grounds.

"We participated in a duel with Auburn at Lake Hardy and had a great time getting to know their team and networking with other club rowers," said Sarah Bailey, senior sports administration major and Crew president. "Despite being a fairly new team, we have experienced success against established, respectable competition."

Practices took place at Lake Purdy, and Samford competed in three regattas per semester. Crew had about 30 members and prided itself on its team culture as well as on success in competition.

"My favorite thing about crew is the family," said senior nutrition and dietetics major Haley Bishop. "We borrow equipment from each other, help

each other at regattas and run ideas by each other about how to better our team. We all struggle in different areas but are happy to help each other wherever possible."

Along with the scrimmage against Auburn, Samford hosted competitions versus Rhodes College, Berry College and Louisiana State University. Crew achieved exciting successes during their season. The novice women placed third out of 25 teams at one of the largest regattas in the South. The team spent the spring preparing for the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association regatta at the end of April.

"It gave my team and me the chance to excel physically and personally," said Katy Ferguson, junior nutrition and dietetics major. "It challenged us to be the best rowers we could be and gave us the opportunity to build new relationships that go beyond our boats and beyond our team."







ARTICLE BY EMILY DUVAL



1. The team carries their boat to the dock for the race. 2. Captains Haley Bishop and Sarah Bailey encourage their teammates before the race. 3. Katherine Estep and Ria Martino carry their boat down to the water. 4. The team gets in plenty of practice while at the Auburn crew grounds. 5. Bailey helps carry her team's boat to the dock. 6. Team members walk down to the lake, ready to row. 7. Bishop and Rebecca Salstrand hug in celebration after the team's performance against Auburn. 8. Crew members prepare their boat for the race. 9. Salstrand laughs with fellow teammates as they prepare for the race. 10. Kiani Yui is excited to begin the race. 11. Katy Ferguson relaxes at the dock after her race.

#### NPHC Week



The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) of Samford University was comprised of three affiliated national organizations, including the chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

NPHC acted as a governing body to provide guidance to these chapters within a constitutional framework. Collaboratively, the leaders of this council worked to grow the presence of NPHC on Samford's campus with the goal of equipping leaders for success.

This was reflected in the events hosted by the council in the past year under the leadership of NPHC president, Jhamall Wright. The main event hosted by the organization was NPHC Week.

"The goal of NPHC Week was to bring all the NPHC chapters together and carry out events to the student body to help raise awareness and money for St. Jude's Research, the national philanthropy of the NPHC," said Wright.

NPHC Week, which took place in October, included fun and informative events, such as Boo! At the Zoo, a stroll off in Tallbird Circle and a three-on-three basketball tournament in Bashinsky Gym.

Erin Carley served as the NPHC secretary and played an instrumental role in the planning of the week's events. "I believe this was a really good

week for NPHC," said Carley. "It allowed us to meet new people on and off campus, and it created relationships we didn't have before."

One significant event was the "It's on Us Pledge," in which 150 Samford students took the pledge to end sexual violence on campus. Additionally, the week included a stroll off, which involved NPHC chapters from other university campuses.

"This was an opportunity for each organization to highlight their individuality, and it was definitely a cool experience getting to know all of them and presenting them at Samford," said Carley.

NPHC provided a unique perspective and assumed the responsibility of bringing certain issues to light on Samford's campus.

"NPHC connects our campus to a broader network of organizations," said SGA President Laura Ann Prickett. "The students involved in this council are some of the most service minded and dedicated on campus. Through their organizations and through their council, they work to serve the broader Birmingham community, connecting Samford's values to life beyond our gates."

After such a successful NPHC Week, the organization anticipated future expansion after the successful year.





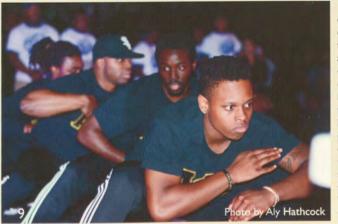












I. Members of all different NPHC organizations smile for a photo at the end of NPHC Week. 2. Sisters of AKA give it their all at the step off. 3. Aneesa Anderson and Yvonne Thomas show off their moves. 4. Alpha Phi Alpha members have a blast during the step off. 5. Students gather in Bashinsky for the NPHC basketball tournament. 6. Students who participated in the 3-on-3 basketball tournament pose for a group photo at the end of the evening. 7. Everyone watches as the girls' team makes a basket in the final game of the tournament. 8. Teams shake hands after the friendly basketball game. 9. Jhamall Wright leads his fellow Alpha Phi Alphas in the step off outside the Hub.















1. Abigail Hancock plays for the crowd at halftime as the cheerleaders and dance team perform with the band. 2. The trumpet section of the band performs the tune. 3. Shakeela Clarke holds a flag up during the halftime show. 4. Students hold their homs while waiting patiently to join in. 5. Jesus James plays the drums while Shelby Bush stands at attention. 6. The band takes the field, ready to play before the game begins. 7. Members of the band sit in the stands together and cheer on the Bulldogs during the game. 8. Abby Thomason plays her trumbone. 9. Bush and Clarke execute their choreography with ease. 10. The band plays as the football team runs onto the field, ready for the game. 11. Members of the color guard wave flags gracefully overhead.





# Color Guard And Marching Band

The Bulldog marching band and color guard performed proudly at the football game versus Furman on October 31. Before their performance, the Bulldogs were up 17 to 0, and spirits were high.

"I enjoy directing the marching band at Samford because I feel that our music and cheers bring an element to the college football atmosphere that nothing else can duplicate," said Brandon Slocumb, director of athletic bands. "Our students and staff work so hard to put a good product on the field, and I think that binds us together throughout the year."

During the game, the marching band and color guard showed their support and cheered on the team, as they fought against Furman.

"The best part about playing in the marching band on game days was hanging out with friends in the stands and mercilessly heckling the other team," said Roman Travis, junior physics and biochemistry double major. "Since the band is on the visitors' side, we are only a few yards from the opposing team's bench. Needless to say, we would constantly 'advise' the players and coaches on how to better manage the game. They were never

very grateful."

The marching band and color guard bonded over their shared passion for the Bulldogs and love of music. The job of maintaining crowd momentum and increasing crowd participation was always done with entertainment from both groups' combined efforts.

"The color guard is such an incredible group to be involved in because some of us start out with no experience, so we really work to be encouraging and uplifting," said Shelby Bush, sophomore music education major and color guard co-captain. "Tve really loved getting to know my teammates and getting to be a part of something bigger."

With the final score of 17-20, Bush was disappointed in the outcome of the game, but the final song performed by the band made the situation better.

"The most telling part of the Furman game actually happened after the players had left the field," Bush said. "After every game, the band plays 'It Is Well' before marching out; it is always a great reminder."





#### Homecoming Week Festivities

Homecoming week offered students an opportunity to participate in their favorite annual traditions as well as to start traditions with events like the Bulldog Bash. The week started with t-shirt and button giveaways, Magic Muffins, Crestline Bagels and coffee in Ben Brown Plaza.

"Homecoming week was a fun opportunity to spend time with friends and to celebrate Samford," said senior elementary education major Claire Wilgus. "The free food and activities in Ben Brown were a great way to build up to the Homecoming Ball!"

The traditional banner signing took place on Tuesday, along with the icing of "Spirit Cookies." That night Samford hosted the Bulldog Bash, which featured live music from Fourth Floor, Trip Wood, Danny Delgado and Chris Colee, and also showcased a dance-off between the Bulldog Dancers and other Samford athletes.

While watching the performances, students had the opportunity to ride a mechanical bull, play a giant game of Jenga and win athletic merchandise giveaways. Cotton candy, s'mores and popcorn were also available in Ben Brown.

"Bulldog Bash was completely new this year, and I would love to see that become a Samford Homecoming tradition," said Catherine Guardabassi, senior journalism and mass communication major and vice president for events on the student executive board.

On Wednesday, the festivities continued as students were able to compete for Dreamcakes and Auntie Anne's pretzels in numerous games of musical chairs. That night Samford's planetarium hosted an Alabama Autumn Sky event.

Samford students were able to play dodgeball and enjoy Greg's Hotdogs on Thursday afternoon in Ben Brown. Later that night, Siebert Gym was transformed for the Homecoming Ball, a tradition held every other year. Students reserved tickets beforehand and came to dance the night away to a live band, see the Homecoming king and queen crowned and enjoy delicious desserts and snacks.

On Friday, cheese biscuits and wings were provided in Ben Brown, as Homecoming week festivities came to a close and students awaited a fun day of tailgating and football the following day.

"The way to a Samford student's heart is through their stomach, and we definitely got our fill during Homecoming week," said sophomore language and world trade major Ariel Leibensperger.



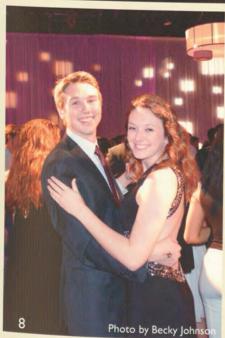
ARTICLE BY NATALIE CERASOLI















I.The brothers of Pi Kappa Phi partner with the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi to decorate their homecoming board. 2. Homecoming t-shirts are sold in Ben Brown Plaza all week long. 3. Students grab a hot dog from the food vendors in Ben Brown Plaza on the way to and from class. 4. Friends stop to play in the bouncy house in Ben Brown Plaza. 5. A student takes his turn decorating his organization's Homecoming board. 6. Walker Edmondson and Lauren Sims smile after being crowned Homecoming king and queen by Drs. Westmoreland. 7. Casey Brookhart, Audrey Stubbs and Taylor Tippel enjoy time together at the ball. 8. Couples dance to music played by the live band. 9. Karson Loomis shows off his swing dancing moves on the dance floor. 10. Regan Chewning, McKenna Souders, Lauren Valentino and Marisa Askew pose while they catch



















1. Dance Team members generate crowd spirit despite rainy weather at the homecoming game. 2. The band sports matching red ponchos as they kick off the tailgate with the Samford fight song. 3. Rachel Smith, Shakeela Clarke and the rest of the Color Guard perform at halftime. 4. Samford students enjoy the homecoming tailgate with family and friends. 5. Claire Gaxiola poses with friends at their tailgate tent. 6. The Samford Crew team shows off the homecoming board they worked so hard on all week. 7. Lauren Sims and Mary Beth Carlisle prepare to walk across the field in the rain as representatives on the homecoming court. 8. The football team funs onto the field, excited to start the game. 9. The student section cheers for the Bulldogs.

# Homecoming Weekend

Homecoming was a time for alumni, friends, students and faculty to celebrate all things Samford. Families sporting red and blue packed the quad for tailgating festivities and visiting with fellow Bulldogs.

"My favorite part of homecoming was the tailgate because it was bigger and better than tailgating at normal home games, and it was a chance to be reunited with friends that have graduated," said Julia Jackson, sophomore human development and family science major.

Students and families then made their way to Seibert Stadium to cheer on the Bulldogs. Samford's football team had its first shutout of the season, a 43-0 victory over Clark Atlanta.

"The best part of homecoming weekend was getting to see alumni of the band. I am excited for my chance to come back and play as an alumna," said senior religion major Camille Honts.

"We got to have fun in the rain, and we ended up singing most of our songs so the instruments would not get wet. It was also fun distracting the opposing team with our screaming."

During halftime, the 2015 homecoming court was presented. Jacob Gholson and Emily Brown represented the freshman class. Hollie Bennett and Michael Mohlenbrok represented the sophomore class. Julia Haase and Trip Adams represented the junior class. Margie Terp, Taylor Chadwell, Mary Beth Carlisle and Jonathan Faulks accompanied Homecoming King and Queen Walker Edmondson and Lauren Sims to represent the senior class.

"Walking across the field, getting flowers from the Westmorelands and seeing friends and family in the stands was such a great feeling. Even though it was raining, we enjoyed every moment! It was definitely a day that I will always look back on and be thankful for," said Lauren Sims, senior journalism and mass communication and Spanish double major.

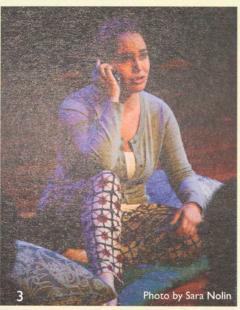
The weekend came to a close with a campus-wide prayer walk for students and alumni, beginning at Centennial Walk, which concluded with a time of worship in Reid Chapel led by Dr. Westmoreland.



10. Homecoming court representatives pose and smile despite the rain. 11. Carson Loomis shows off his Moses outfit as the leader of the "Red Sea." 12. Clarke Miller takes a knee on the sidelines. 13. Brett Bellomy plays his trumpet during halftime. 14. Samford band members sing their songs with imaginary instruments due to rainy conditions.





















I. Evan Gunter parades around the stage in a full bird costume. 2. Alli Brascho sits on a chair on looks sternly as she interacts with cast members. 3. Christy Vest takes a phone call on the floor. 4. Megan Hawkins is distraught because of Gunter's character despite his pleas for forgiveness. 5. Katie Thompson, Anna Willis and Joylyn Rushing all sing to Gunter's character. 6. Kelli Crawford assists the other characters in the scene. 7. Austin Foster holds an object up to the audience while singing beautifully. 8. Lucas Eddings carries a tune throughout the scene.

# Samford Opera Workshop



Samford Opera hosted the Samford Opera Workshop Scenes November 6-7 in Bolding Studio. Students performed scenes from operas including Street Scene, The Marriage of Figaro, Die Zauberflöte and Die Fledermaus.

Sixteen students performed individual and group scenes directed by Professor Kristin Kenning and accompanied by John Robertson. The entire Samford community was invited to attend the performances free of charge.

Attendees consistently leave Opera performances enamored and inspired. Senior sociology major Jami Golden had attended numerous productions to support her friends and classmates. "I have absolutely loved the performances," said Golden. "My peers are so talented, and it is a joy to see them not only take on the role but excel in it. It's also fun to see how my

peers are contributing to the arts at Samford. It gives me a greater appreciation for my school."

Three students – senior vocal performance majors Madilyn Muse and Holly Harrington and sophomore music and worship major Reid Parrot – qualified to compete in the National Opera Association Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. The trio placed second in the musical theatre category of the Collegiate Opera Scenes competition with a selection from *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.* 

Samford Opera produces one mainstage production and one workshop production per year.





9. Hannah Muse breaks into song while lounging atop the piano. 10. Crawford, Brascho and Madilyn Muse converse on stage. 11. The cast members line up and take a final bow at the end of the show. 12. Gunter and Hawkins rise after their meal together. 13. Kristin Kenning plays her character well, capturing the audience's attention.

ARTICLE BY HALLIE KING

#### Art Lofts Inspire

In the fall of 2015, fine arts students were welcomed back to campus with a newly renovated building designed specifically to meet the needs of visual art students. What was originally the facility management building had become a two-story, state-of-the-art loft, a new home to all fine art courses.

"I am so grateful that we can have a designated space not only to create work but to not be afraid of getting messy while we're in the creative process," said Torrie Richardson, senior fine arts major.

Previously, fine arts students took classes in various parts of campus, mainly Swearingen Hall, with the occasional course in Brooks Hall. After the new loft was built, students could easily move from class to class and foster their creative talents in one location. The new art lofts, located north of Lena Vail Davis Residence Hall, included offices for the faculty and staff, large, open-air classrooms and personalized studio spaces.

"What I like most about the art lofts is that the professors want you to grow and experiment, and this space allows us to do that," said Ann Martin Foley, senior graphic design major.

"The open studios really help foster community between the art students," said Richardson. "Anyone can walk by the studios, look at what

you're making and chat. That type of fellowship is something that I think will greatly benefit the culture and the student body of the art department."

Though the art lofts were open for students to use at the beginning of the school year, Samford did not host the official grand opening until November 7. Over 100 students, faculty and staff attended the opening, which was part of the 2015 Homecoming weekend activities. All departments within the School of the Arts were in attendance, including the A Cappella Choir and a music ensemble, both of whom performed pieces in commemoration of the official grand opening. Afterward, tours of the new art loft were given to anyone interested in learning more about the new spaces.

"Our students will be able to look around and see what everyone else is doing and working on," said Joseph Cory, associate professor of art. "There will be a great dialogue between freshmen and the upperclassmen as they see each other's projects."

Visual art students, faculty and staff were pleased with the amount of space it provided and hope the loft continues to inspire students to create stunning works of art and build an even stronger community among artists.



I. Faculty, staff and students from the School of the Arts cut the ribbon to officially open the new facilities. 2. Brianna Ware watches excitedly throughout the program. 3. Music students play at the dedication of the art lofts, representing unity within the school. 4. A Cappella Choir members sing to guests attending the ceremony. 5. Dean Joseph Hopkins speaks at the ribbon cutting, excited about the future of the visual arts program. 6. Kyle DeMarco represents students and participates in the program. 7. Wisdom Bibbs and fellow members of the band concentrate on their music. 8. Dr. Mike Hardin speaks eloquently. 9. Art students are eager to cut the ribbon.















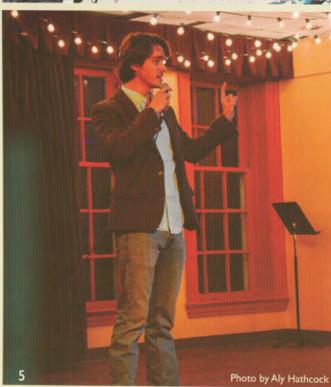
















1. Taylor McCarley and Garrett Galloway promote Diversability on campus by pushing each other around in a wheelchair. 2. McClain McKinney auctions off a date with Preston Little. 3. Jeremy Moore and his band rock out for a good cause at the rooftop concert. 4. Pi Kappa Phi advertises the many exciting events happening throughout War of the Roses week. 5. Frank Robertson explains to the audience why he would be an excellent date. 6. Thomas Wachter waits as people bid on a date with him. 7. Christian Rodriguez struts his stuff on stage. 8. Joseph Meadors and Brad Hulker try to get the ladies to buy a date with them with the help of host McClain McKinney.

#### War Of The Roses

Pi Kappa Phi brought friendly competition to campus with War of the Roses November 9-12, thanks to the planning and organization of junior management and entrepreneurship major and philanthropy chair Danny Delgado. The event consisted of different contests, each aimed to generate support for the fraternity's national philanthropy, the Ability Experience. The Ability Experience's mission is to "use shared experiences to support people with disabilities and to develop the men of Pi Kappa Phi into servant leaders." During War of the Roses, Pi Kappa Phi also seeks to support Diversability, a campus organization that helps to bring easier access around Samford for people with disabilities.

To start out the weeklong competition, Pi Kappa Phi hosted a dodgeball tournament. Greek organizations went head-to-head in a various rounds of dodgeball until the sisters of Chi Omega won in the championship round against Zeta Tau Alpha.

The next day, junior journalism and mass communication major McClain McKinney hosted a Date Auction in Harry's Coffeehouse. The five campus sororities all bid on a dates with Pi Kappa Phi fraternity members, and each dollar raised was donated to Pi Kappa Phi's philanthropy.

Junior and exercise science major and Pi Kappa Phi Thomas Wachter

was asked to be a part of the Date Auction. "Chi Omega bid \$115, and I ended up going on a date with Margaret Shelton, a Chi Omega junior," said Wachter.

The highest bid of the night went to Chi Omega for \$140. The \$140 was a package deal for a date with both Brad Hulker and Joe Meadors, seniors.

In addition to the other activities throughout the week, Pi Kappa Phi also facilitated a Penny Wars competition, which took place in Ben Brown Plaza each day. Sororities could put coins in their own jars to gain points and dollar bills in jars belonging to other sororities, which counted as negative points. At the end of the week, Chi Omega ended up winning Penny Wars as well as all of the other competitions hosted.

To wrap up the week's festivities and officially announce the sisters of Chi Omega as the winners of the 2016 War of the Roses, Pi Kappa Phi hosted a rooftop concert at Cooney Hall. Junior Ashley Priddy opened for Jeremy Moore, an up-and-coming local musician.

"This was the first year we decided to do an outdoor fundraising concert, and the turnout was pretty great," said junior exercise science major and Pi Kappa Phi Glenn Fleenor. Though the outdoor concert was a little chilly, the students who came had a great time, and Samford's illuminated campus made a beautiful backdrop for the event.



#### Model United Nations In DC



Model United Nations (MUN) was an educational organization that sought to give students a genuine simulation of the United Nations. Throughout the year, students competed and learned about diplomacy and international relations.

Samford's MUN team spent October 22-25 in Washington, D.C., participating in the National Model United Nations D.C. (NMUN-DC) Conference. More than 800 students and 50 faculty members from across the country came together to confront issues at the forefront of modern international relations, experience a crisis simulation in the Security Council and hear briefings by distinguished speakers from the Washington, D.C., diplomatic community.

The team's advisor, Dr. Serena Simoni, accompanied the group of Samford delegates as they competed against hundreds of other colleges and universities.

"It is always memorable to get to make connections with other national

and international students," said junior political science major Marley Davis.

Samford's MUN team represented Israel at the conference. After many hours of preparation and a concentrated effort to learn about new cultures, students felt competent discussing the issues presented to the committee. For their excellent work, they were awarded the Honorable Delegation award.

The experiences students gained through MUN proved invaluable to their own personal growth and understanding. "Representing such a variety of different countries, my world has forever been broadened, whether writing position papers, giving speeches or negotiating resolutions," said sophomore journalism and mass communication major Ella Oxley.

Competing in conferences such as this one was an exciting part of being a member of the MUN team. Over the course of the trip, the members of MUN became more that just colleagues and delegates; the team members became a family.





1. The Model United Nations team smiles for a photo amid the conference festivities. 2. Students represent their respective countries and light candles in the program. 3. Students laugh and enjoy being together, celebrating their Honorable Delegation award and a successful conference.

ARTICLE BY JULIANA GUZMAN

# College Democrats Debate

College Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians came together November 11 in Brock Forum to participate in a debate hosted by Samford Democrats.

"The turnout for the event was great, and those who came out were eager to ask those participating in the debate hard-hitting questions," said Isaac DeWitt, sophomore political science major and president of the Samford chapter of College Democrats.

Students Marley Davis and Natalie Bennie represented the Democrats and answered questions about gun control, healthcare and taxation. Chair and political science professor Dr. Fred Shepherd acted as the moderator. All parties involved agreed that Dr. Shepherd did a fantastic job moderating the debate. Each side was allowed an opening statement, a minute and a half for each response and 30 seconds for rebuttals. Toward the end of the debate, students in the crowd were allowed to ask questions.

"Each political group was well represented in the audience, so it was

a great experience to see different students come together to discuss these relevant issues," said Davis, junior political science major.

The debate was also a great way to get other organizations involved. "We are glad that our event sparked discussion of further debates that could include other groups on campus like the Multicultural Affairs Committee or the Latino Students Organization," said Bennie, senior communication studies major.

The Samford chapter of the College Democrats was a multi-purpose organization. The primary goal of any College Democrats chapter was to promote Democratic candidates and ideas on campus and throughout the surrounding community, as well as to encourage students to vote. However, what made this chapter so special was its position at Samford. Despite being a minority on campus, the Democrats were bold and outspoken. Samford Democrats strove to bring different ideas and opportunities to campus throughout the year.







I. Dr. Shepherd moderates the debate, as students address a myriad of issues. 2. Natalie Bennie and Marley Davis build their argument by responding to concerns of the opposition. 3. Students respond to questions raised by audience members in attendance.

#### Centennial Celebration



Performing the first movement of Mozart's 25th symphony and the Mozart Requiem, the Samford Orchestra joined combined choirs to present the Centennial Celebration Concert on November 17. The orchestra performed two concerts per semester, including a full symphony performance this year.

Combined concerts brought out new sounds from all groups involved. Alina Pitman, a junior clarinet performance major and Bb clarinet player in the orchestra, was enlightened by the experience.

"I had always only watched different orchestras and choirs perform together, but being a part of it was like being in a whole other world," Pitman said. "To be able to put together such a huge piece of music and perform it so well was extremely rewarding."

The orchestra was an incredibly diverse group, just as all other Samford musical groups were. Students of different majors from all over campus joined together to play various pieces in different performances throughout the year.

Junior horn performance major Elizabeth Simmons had played horn in the orchestra for three years and encouraged everyone to be involved. "We play a lot of interesting music," Simmons said. "If you haven't been exposed to classical music before, you should come to an orchestra concert to see some of what happens in the music building."

Students campus-wide were involved in the program, but even more students attended orchestra events. Brian Viliunas, the orchestra director, appreciated the support of the entire Samford community. "I really like that we have so much community involvement," Viliunas said. "So many Samford people come to hear us play, and there is so much excitement in the building the week before a concert."

The orchestra did outreach work as well, most notably trips to the Dominican Republic to teach music to elementary school-aged children. Simmons considered a trip she attended two years ago to be her favorite orchestra memory thus far.

"We demonstrated and let the students play our instruments," Simmons said. "It was a neat experience because of the genuine curiosity the kids had." The group will return to the Dominican Republic in 2017.



ARTICLE BY HALLIE KING















1. The orchestra and choirs join together to perform for the Centennial Celebration. 2. The conductor leads the musicians in each musical movement.
3. Brian Viliunas bows after directing a beautiful concert. 4. Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland addresses the audience at the Centennial Concert. 5. Cellists perform beautifully. 6. The violin section of the orchestra concentrates while playing. 7. Students show that their long practice hours pay off by performing well. 8. The choir harmonizes along with the orchestra. 9. Tenors and basses round out the choir's sound.















# Tausgiving Turkey Hunt

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) hosted their first-ever philanthropy event this fall benefitting Cornerstone Schools of Alabama, a K-12 school for inner-city kids. The brothers dressed up in turkey and pilgrim costumes to sell tickets in Ben Brown Plaza throughout the week and promote their event, appropriately called "Tausgiving," which took place November 17.

For \$10, students could purchase tickets for the event, which featured a barbecue dinner, cornhole and live music by the band the Fourth Floor on the Quad. Tickets also allowed students to participate in the most talked about portion of the event, the "Taukey Hunt."

"Basically, ATO brothers would dress up as turkeys and pilgrims," said junior exercise science major and ATO philanthropy co-chair Ken Gammada. "Participants would pay to shoot the turkeys with paintball guns while trying to avoid shooting the pilgrims."

The "Taukey Hunt" was a memorable experience for brothers who

volunteered to dodge paintballs in order to raise money for their philanthropy.

"It was an extremely painful but awesome experience," said Will Keene, junior entrepreneurship and marketing double major and ATO President. "Luckily, I had my brothers there to endure the pain with me."

While Tausgiving was a lighthearted event, it also brought students together for a good cause and allowed the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega to raise \$2,500 for Cornerstone Schools of Alabama.

"My favorite part of the event was certainly the Taukey Hunt and seeing people from all parts of campus participating," said senior political science major William Hargrove. "It was also great to see representatives from Cornerstone at the event. They were so shocked that we had put together this event and that roughly 200 students showed up solely for the benefit of the children at Cornerstone."







I. Beau Jarratt dodges paintballs as he runs across the quad. 2. Jack Henry moves quickly in his turkey costume, hoping to make it safely across the quad. 3. Spencer Bissell explains the rules of the game while Levi Edwards takes a shot. 4. Austin Hoover, Colby Dimock, Joe Marchetti, Andrew Staup and Rhys Miller sell t-shirts to commemorate their first annual Tausgiving and to raise money for their philanthropy. 5. Carter Bunch serves dinner to Tausgiving attendees. 6. Mikayla Scarborough takes a shot at the turkeys running back and forth. 7. Kyle Church helps decorate and set up for the event. 8. Harrison Oh helps Jarratt across the quad, shielding him from the paintballs. 9. Brady Slinkard fires a paintball at one of the turkeys. 10. Oh, Henry and Jackson Collier show off their costumes for the event.

### The Underground Presents Talking With...

Inderground Theatre grabbed the hearts of students, faculty and off-campus audience members alike through the performance of *Talking With...*, a play written by Jane Martin. Unlike main stage productions, the Underground Theatre is completely student-led, providing opportunities for both theatre and non-theatre majors to get involved in the process of producing and performing shows.

The performances took place in more intimate spaces like Bolding Studio or Studio 60, as opposed to Harrison Theatre or the Wright Center. Shows like *Talking With...* gave actors an opportunity to get involved in a more dynamic experience with the audience.

"I had to become truly vulnerable with myself, my character and my audience – especially when they were only a few feet away," said Anna Beth Riggs, sophomore musical theatre major. "This show gave us the task of making our audience as vulnerable as the actresses."

Talking With... was performed by eleven females who delivered eleven individual monologues that became connected by the end of the performance. Kendra Ball, junior theatre for youth major and Underground Theatre director, admitted that she purposefully chose a production consisting of an all-female cast. "I chose a play that was all-female to provide more opportunities for women in the department and to cater to the Samford ratio," Ball said.

In addition to the eleven female cast members, the production featured one character that was especially intriguing to the audience: Tat, played by a live cat named Rosalind. Kat Sterling, a freshman musical theatre major who played Tat's owner, found the opportunity to perform with a cat to be a highlight of her experience. "I'm absolutely obsessed with cats, so the first day she came, I literally couldn't get through my monologue because I was so infatuated by her," Sterling said.

Each monologue was intended to be relatable to different types of people, so that by the end of the performance, every audience member had a connection with at least one character in the show. "It was all worth it if what we said resonated with at least one person," freshman theatre major Brittany Welch said. "The opportunity to relate to and touch audience members is a motif central to the purpose of Underground Theatre."

Ball felt a connection with this show and the general premise of Underground Theatre when directing this play. "I think the motto, 'When you have the opportunity to tell a beautiful story, do so,' describes the powerful message of *Talking With...* The women want you to listen to their stories and relate to them," Ball said. "In a way, I think this motto sums up theatrical performance and artistic expression in general."







1. Kat Sterling holds tightly onto a stuffed cat. 2. Claire Wells sits in an elegant yellow chair and looks off into the distance. 3. Kaitlin Moore raises a glass to the audience.
4. Ann-Houston Campbell dons a plaid shirt and hat while sitting on a bench. 5. Anna Dunbar ecstatically holds a large drink while being bundled up in several layers. 6. Anna Beth Riggs dances around the stage with a vacuum in hand. 7. Madeleine Masson looks disturbed as she sits up in her hospital bed. 8. Katie Beazley halts with dramatic body language.

9. Jillian Walters applies eyeliner while leaning on a wooden table. 10. Brittany Welch stares at the audience and pauses. 11. Emily Wilson dumps a bowl of marbles onto the floor.

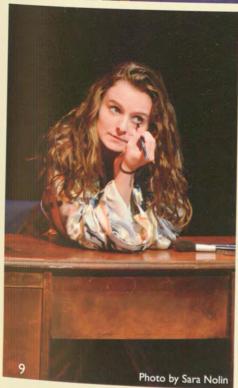














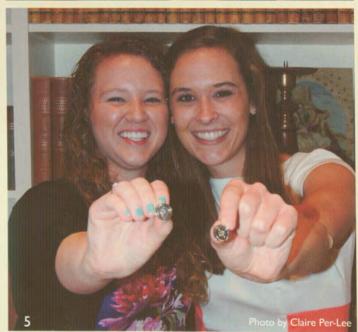














I. Laura Klein, Nellie Hoehl, Hannah Gilliland and Kate Bishop display with the Order of Omega banner. 2. New initiates of ODK pose with the ODK key. 3. Students mingle and chat while enjoying the light refreshments provided at the Order of Omega induction. 4. Alexis Crutchfield, Alpha Kappa Alpha president, poses with sisters and proudly represents their organization. 5. Meg Booth and Chrissy Hessing show off their new ODK pins after being initiated. 6. ODK officers pose with Drs. Westmoreland and Dr, Betsy Holloway after the ceremony. 7. Jordan Holland, William Hargrove and Brandon Lawson enjoy themselves at the Order of Omega induction. 8. Order of Omega includes all their new members for a group photo. 9. Members of ODK smile for a photo at the president's home.



# Exceptional Students Honored

There were 14 active Greek chapters on campus as well as a number of honorary societies. These prestigious societies required a certain GPA as well as an extensive nomination and application process.

The purpose of Order of Omega was to recognize students who had attained a high standard of scholarship and leadership within the Greek community, to encourage them to continue in those efforts and to inspire others to strive for the same. Order of Omega also sought to bring together fraternity and sorority members, as well as members of the campus community as a whole.

"I loved being the leader of Order of Omega," said senior nursing major Kate Bishop. "It allowed me to meet new members of the Greek community and create relationships with people in the Birmingham community. It gave me responsibility and accountability, and it pushed me to grow as a person."

Along with their initiation on November 16, members of Order of Omega organized and hosted a book drive in the spring benefiting Better Basics of Birmingham, an organization that strives to give every child in the Birmingham school system a book and increase childhood literacy.

Similar to Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), a national

honor society, aimed to recognize leaders of college campuses who were involved in arts, academics, mass communication, student organizations and student government. The organization extended membership to students, faculty, staff, alumni and administrators.

The Samford circle of ODK aimed to facilitate communication between the faculty and students. Specifically, members of ODK hoped to be a community where leaders could support and encourage one another and find outlets for working together across campus.

On November 19, ODK initiated 50 members into the Samford circle at the Westmorelands' home. The organization also hosted meetings in the spring and a well-received convo for freshman during the fall semester, which focused on being an underclassmen leader and a balanced, involved student.

"Being president of ODK was a high point of my senior year - working with a great team of insightful, dedicated students and the unsinkable, incredibly caring Dr. Holloway," said Franklin Lowe, president of ODK. "Our members come from so many diverse portions of campus, and I love getting to know them and their experiences at Samford and as leaders."



ARTICLE BY SARAH KORTA



# December





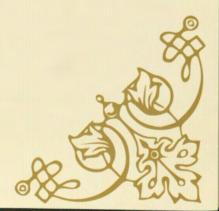
# January

Campus Outreach New Years Conference. 078-079

Jan Term Study Abroad. 080-081

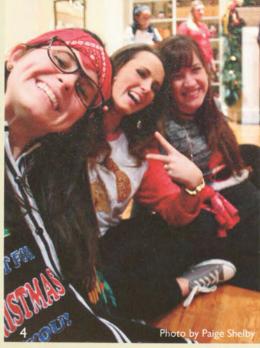
Women's Basketball vs. Chattanooga 082-083

Cheerleaders and Bulldog Dancers 084-085

















1. Ambassadors smile for a group photo at the end of the night. 2. Juliette Stanley and others grab a bite to eat before heading back to the night's festivities. 3. Nellie Hoehl happily plays a role in a party game. 4. Margie Terp, Claire Elise McKee and Mary Leslie Prater take a selfie to commemorate the fun evening. 5. Jay Davis, Will Roberson and Mary Leslie Prater draw on paper plates without looking as part of a party game. 6. A group of Ambassadors enjoy appetizers around a table. 7. Nelson Park, Josh Salter, Micah Holloway, Sarah Cobble and Hunter Gibbs pose after winning first place in the Christmas party games. 8. Mrs. Dr. Westmoreland leads students in a game. 9. Riley Westmoreland, Allison Strickland and Lauren McCaghren judge the teams' performances to determine a winner. 10. Teams are challenged with moving a cookie from their foreheads into their mouths without using their hands.

# Samford Ambassador Christmas Party



The mission of the Samford Ambassador program can be summarized in three simple words: serving the university. The majority of events consist of the ambassadors hosting, serving, holding doors and greeting visitors. However, there are events that do not require a name tag and a suit. In fact, the annual Ambassador Christmas party encourages the opposite: tacky Christmas sweaters, game faces and colorful bandanas.

"The Christmas party was a great way to celebrate the birth of Jesus as well as a reminder of one of the many reasons that makes serving as an ambassador and just being a Samford student so special," said Jay Davis, junior marketing major and 2015 Ambassador president. "The fact that the Westmorelands are willing to open up their home to us is a perfect example of the kind of servant heart that the ambassadors strive to have."

"The party is a fun evening for the ambassadors to take a break before exams and enjoy time with one another," said Allison Strickland, Ambassador faculty advisor. "The Westmorelands generously open their home and facilitate

games for the group. Not only is it a good opportunity for the ambassadors to spend time together, but I think they really have fun getting to socialize with the Westmorelands in such a casual setting. Mrs. Dr. Westmoreland always comes up with really creative games that require a lot of teamwork. It makes for a lot of laughs and some really good memories."

The games they played challenged the ambassadors' artistic abilities, dance moves, teamwork and their ability to move animal crackers down their face and successfully into their mouths.

"The Christmas party was a great opportunity to come together and enjoy laughter and fellowship with one another," said Nellie Hoehl, junior finance major. "I loved the creative games that Mrs. Dr. Westmoreland came up with, and it was a blast to get competitive as a group. I am beyond thankful for the Ambassador program and the friendships it has brought me, especially when we get to build strong memories such as the ones we made at the Christmas party."

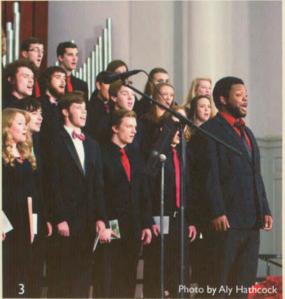




ARTICLE BY PAIGE SHELBY















I. The University Chorale sings in accompaniment with flutists. 2. Camille Honts and Josh Harper light the Advent candle to signify the Christmas season. 3. Lucas Eddings sings a solo as the Chorale harmonizes. 4. The choir director leads the University chorale in perfect unison. 5. Molly McCoy and Andrew Feldewerth read segments of the Christmas story from scripture. 6. Senior honorees stand next to each other on the Reid chapel stage. They were chosen to participate in the traditional Hanging of the Green ceremony based on their leadership, academic achievements and character. 7. Christina Schmitt lights a candle for the ceremony. 8. The University Chorale fills Reid Chapel with beloved Christmas hymns.

# Hanging Of The Green

The 35th annual Hanging of the Green service was held in Reid Chapel Thursday, December 3. Throughout the ceremony, University Chorale members serenaded the room with Christmas anthems. They began with "Once in Royal David's City" and continued with "There Is No Rose of Such Virtue." In between songs and carols, twelve seniors were recognized for their leadership and service on campus and in the Birmingham community.

Christina Schmitt, senior honoree and religion major, said, "The faculty that I have worked with recognize that I want to take my education experience and better the world with it."

The University Chorale entertained the audience with numerous, joyfilled carols as the seniors adorned the chapel by hanging advent greenery and lighting candles.

In preparation for Hanging of the Green, as well as for other upcoming performances throughout the year, the University Chorale rehearsed three times per week. For new members of Chorale, the experience of singing for Hanging of the Green was particularly exciting.

"The best part was being a part of such a long tradition as a freshman," said freshman music major and University Chorale member Kelsey Kilgore. "It's something everyone looks forward to, and it's so beautiful."

One of the most memorable performances of the night was the University Chorale's performance of "Here's a Pretty Little Baby." Lucas Eddings, senior music education major and baritone soloist, stole the crowd's hearts with his astounding voice during this anthem.

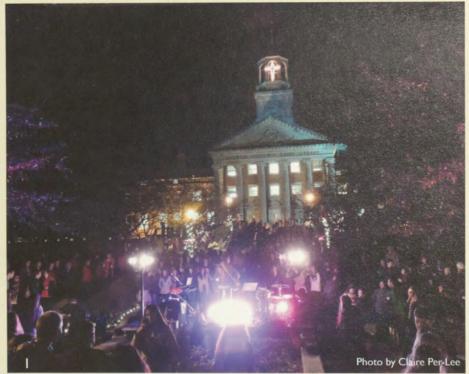
"It was a breathtakingly beautiful performance," freshman human development and family life education major Mary Emma Campbell said.

Each individual's voice represented a symbol of faith and worship. As the light of the candles and the tones of the choir members spread throughout the congregation, those leading worship celebrated the hope of Christ and rang in the Christmas season. As the senior honorees departed the chapel, they embodied the Light of the World that attendees were told to share with the world.

"Traditions like this attracted me to Samford," said Hannah Sjolund, freshman communication studies major. "Celebrating the Light of Christ is something I am proud to say my university carries out well."

The service concluded with the recessional hymn "Joy to the World," after which the congregation erupted in thunderous applause for the University Chorale and all those involved in the traditional ceremony.

















# Lighting Of The Way

The Lighting of the Way ceremony began with hundreds of students crowded along the narrow path of Centennial Walk, where a large Christmas tree loomed over a small stage. Heated lamps were installed along the path and hot cocoa was served so that students could remain warm while participating in the beloved December tradition despite the cold.

"Samford Dining's catering company was generous enough to donate all the hot chocolate, cider and delicious sweet treats," said Catherine Guardabassi, senior journalism and mass communication major and vice president for events on the Student Executive Board.

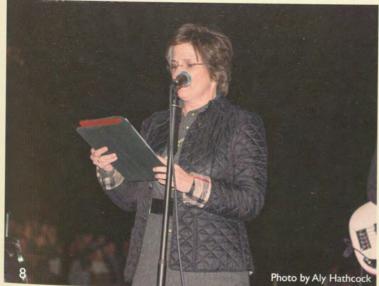
When everyone had finished gathering, Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland took center stage. She gave a heartfelt speech to the crowd of students, and after she finished reading the Christmas story, a switch was flipped, lighting Centennial Walk. The lights illuminated the center of campus and wrapped around the stage. Applause erupted, filling the air, and was soon accompanied by Christmas carols and friendly chatter.

"As a freshman, this was my first time experiencing Lighting of the Way," said Karen Inouye, freshman environmental science major. "I was amazed as the students and teachers came together as a family to hear the president's wife read the Christmas story."

Steve Moakler and his band played a set featuring country music and classic Christmas jingles. As the band played, students sang along to the melodies, drank hot cocoa and took photographs in front of the newly lit Christmas tree.

"It's the most magical time at Samford because when you come back from Thanksgiving break, all of the decorations are up, but they are not lit yet," senior interior design major Molly McCoy said. "It's not until Lighting of the Way that everything comes to life on campus."

Once again, Centennial Walk twinkled in its full glory, and the Christmas cheer spread across campus.







1. The center of campus buzzes with excitement as students ring in the holiday season. 2. Taylor McCarley, Kirsten Atfield, Hannah Baker, Caroline Lytle and JD Tyler enjoy their first Lighting of the Way together. 3. Kerith Helms, Holly Harmon and Kari Pollio pose by the Christmas tree. 4. Lauren Sims and Charlie Haney enjoy their final Lighting of the Way with Sims's residents Kaelin Deegan, Mary Kale LaBar and Anna Hornsby as they experience their first Lighting of the Way. 5. Lauren Valentino and Molly Brown get in the Christmas spirit with Christmas carols playing in the background. 6. The Christmas tree shines brightly in the center of campus. 7. Katie Nelson shares this special Samford tradition with her parents. 8. Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland reads the Christmas story to students anticipating the tree lighting. 9. Morgan Johnson and Chelsea Davis pause to snap a photo with a friend between songs. 10. The band plays for a crowd of students gathered on the steps of Centennial Walk.

#### Nurses' Pinning

n December 11, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing hosted a pinning ceremony at Shades Mountain Baptist Church for those graduating with their Bachelor's of Science in nursing, this ceremony is held in addition to the traditional commencement ceremony.

"The pinning ceremony was so special for not only me but for my entire family," said graduated nursing student Sara Hess.

With its roots in Christianity, the pinning ceremony allowed students to reflect on the role faith played in their chosen profession.

"The pinning tradition is unique to nursing," said Dr. Nena Sanders, Vice Provost of the College of Health Sciences. "The pinning service is a 'setting apart,' an answer to a 'calling." It is different from graduation and receiving your diploma. The commencement ceremony focuses on academic accomplishments, whereas the pinning is more consistent with a 'rite of passage' or an ordination, a recognition that you have entered into ministry or service to your fellow man as a nurse. The pinning ceremony is focused specifically on the art of nursing."

Each graduate chose a significant person that he or she wanted to be

pinned by. Graduates chose other nurses, parents, spouses and role models who had played a significant part in the his or her pursuit of the nursing degree.

"My mom has been a huge inspiration to me," said Abbie Shimer, graduated nursing student. "She is why I wanted to become a nurse, and she pinned me in the ceremony. It was a very special moment."

Each graduate was also given a lamp, which represented the care and devotion that Florence Nightingale, who commissioned the first nurses pinning so long ago, had and that future nurses would need to minister to the sick and injured in the practice of nursing.

After lighting each of their lamps, the class was led in the Nursing Pledge. A final Ida V. Moffett tradition was to give each graduate a Bible as they processed out of the sanctuary. This was meant to serve as a reminder for each graduate that, before one is a nurse, one must be a disciple of Christ and should follow the example that has already been set before them in the nursing profession.









ARTICLE BY MARISA ASKEW





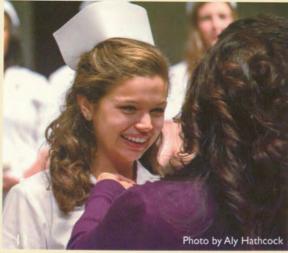






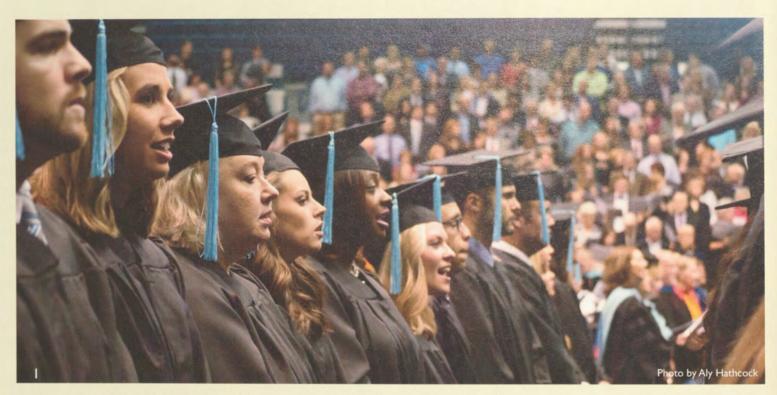
1. Students smile as they wait to light their lamps. 2. Tina Wei receives her lamp. 3. Mary Ellen Smith and Katelyn Snider light each other's lamps and pass the candlelight on to fellow nurses. 4. Dean Howell addresses those gathered at the pinning while Cindy Ritter looks on. 5. Abbie Shimer leads everyone in a prayer as part of the ceremony. 6. Shelby Gooding and Amber Graham smile as their hard work pays off and they become nurses. 7.A newly pinned nursing student receives a congratulatory hug upon being given her lamp. 8. Students stand tall as the ceremony comes to a close. 9. Farah Hussain is pinned by her family. 10. Smith proudly holds up her lamp. 11. Sara Hess can't help but smile as she is pinned. 12. Latarsha Gates's loved ones recognize her accomplishment as they pin







#### December Commencement



Two hundred forty seniors and graduate students sat in the Pete Hanna Center on December 12, excitedly waiting for their names to be read aloud. With each name called, another hard-earned diploma was received and another Samford story drew to a close.

Along with their degrees, the graduating seniors also received advice from the commencement speaker David W. Chapman, dean of the Howard College of Arts and Sciences.

"In his speech, Dean Chapman encouraged graduates to reflect on their experiences as well as press into the future through looking at the Greek maxim 'know thyself," said senior nursing major Katie Nelson.

For many graduates, the moment was bittersweet.

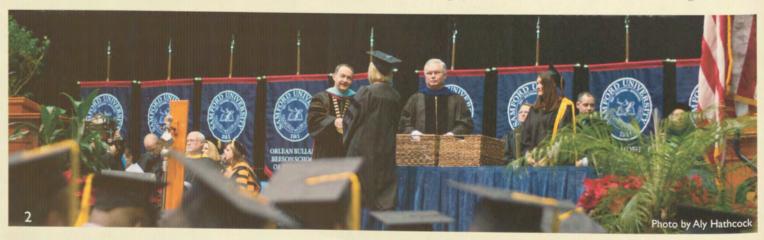
"On one hand, I'm ready to be done with essays and tests, but on the other, I cannot imagine leaving the place that has given me so much," said Analeigh Horton, communication studies graduate. "I'm closing this chapter right now, but I know I'll be back soon enough because once a Bulldog, always a Bulldog."

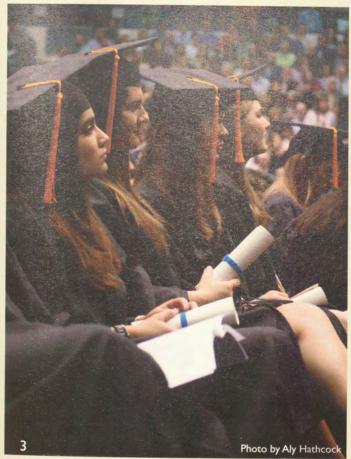
Apart from the undergraduate commencement that took place on December 12, two other commencement celebrations were held. Beeson Divinity School held their commencement and consecration ceremony on December 2, with 14 students graduating in Hodges Chapel. William J. Carl III, the pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, gave the commencement sermon, followed by the professors praying over the graduates.

Additionally, the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing held their pinning ceremony on December 11 at Shades Mountain Baptist Church.

"It was powerful for me to stand up with my fellow graduates, wearing our pins and holding our lamps," nursing graduate Mary Ellen Smith said. "In that moment, with great pride, we solemnly entered into the sacred and trusted profession of nursing. May we serve others well and make this world a better place because we are in it."

As these students started a new chapter in their lives, they began to add their own legacy to the Samford motto, "For God, For Learning, Forever."















I. Education graduates join in singing a hymn as part of the commencement ceremony. 2. Dr. Westmoreland awards an education student her diploma. 3. Having walked across the stage, Arts and Sciences graduates listen closely to the final speakers. 4. Dr. Westmoreland and Dr. Mike Hardin prepare to receive students as they walk across the stage. 5. Anna Harrell proudly walks across the stage. 6. Graduates can't help but smile having walked across the stage. 7. Dr. Westmoreland smiles at students lined up to walk across the stage. 8. Sarah Gail Niebur excitedly holds up her scroll in celebration. 9. Graduates wait patiently while their degrees are conferred upon them.

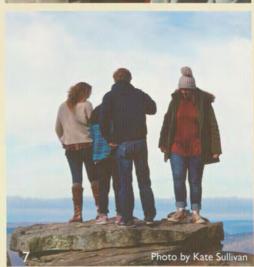


















# Campus Outreach New Year's Conference

ver winter break, students involved with Campus Outreach (CO) traveled to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to attend the annual New Year's Conference (NYC) that brings students together from all over the country. For five days, attendees were able to learn from esteemed teachers and speakers like Robby Gallaty and Rosiaria Butterfield in addition to attending seminars led by CO staff members. Students were also able to spend time exploring the city of Chattanooga and going to conference-sponsored events including sports tournaments, a concert and a New Year's Eve party.

"It's a great environment to ask deep questions and grow deeper in your relationship with Christ," said sophomore business major Grant Gardner. "I was looking forward to a break midway through Christmas break and Jan Term and to seeing my friends from Samford and other schools."

Over 1,500 students from dozens of colleges attended NYC in Chattanooga, almost 100 of whom were from Samford. These students spent time growing their local community in campus breakouts while also participating in regional and area sessions.

"NYC was like a little taste of Summer Beach Project, which I had the amazing opportunity to serve on this past summer," said junior elementary

education major Abby Thurston. "There were so many different messages that I got out of my time on conference, but I think the biggest change in my thought process is that I should be continually challenging myself with the question, 'Am I living eternally or for the world?' It really puts life into perspective."

CO's focus is to glorify God by making disciples on campus for the lost world, and NYC sought to emphasize what living for Christ could look like in college and beyond.

"While at NYC I got saved and realized that I was spending too much time investing in things that did not matter," said freshman Alfred Brown. "NYC was one of the best things that has happened in my life. I will definitely be going again next year."

"We all come to Jesus dirty and broken, but He can do amazing things in our weaknesses," said Thurston. "And that's one thing I really took away from NYC. Don't wait to go to Christ. He wants you now."

NYC was a valuable opportunity for students to spend time learning and growing in Christ amongst a community of their peers.









9. Students hold up their nametags from NYC. 10. Taylor Yungk, Mary Leslie Prater and Mary Beth Carlisle pose at the top of their hike and take in the scenic view. 11. Students prepare to file into the auditorium for a session at NYC. 12. Friends Elizabeth Mullins and Kate Sullivan smile while spending the day exploring downtown Chattanooga together.

ARTICLE BY ELIZABETH MULLINS

























I. Allie Haywood and Allison Kanne enjoy tea London-style. 2. Students spend an afternoon exploring the city of London together. 3. Sarah Tuttle, Kate Sullivan, Bonnie Grace Tillman and Macey Sims pause for a picturesque moment on a London bridge. 4. Tuttle, Sullivan, Tillman and Sims try to fit into a traditional London phone booth. 5. Students take a selfie with the beautiful scenary. 6. Students bundle up and head to the beach. 7. Tillman takes a moment to appreciate the art displayed at a London museum. 8. Students make sure to snap photos with the well-known landmarks around the city. 9. Students gather for a group picture in front of Kensington Palace. 10. Abby Adams and Katie Scott smile for a photo amid their tourism adventures. 11. Everyone gathers outside of their next stop before heading in together. 12. Jessica Joy enjoys exploring with Kaleb Loomis. 13. Caroline Peklenk, Megan McCarley and Joy take a stroll around the lake. 14. Hannah Gilliland enjoys a warm drink with Kanne in the streets of London. 15. Tillman and Sims ride the tube into town.

# Jan Term Study Abroad







an Term provided students the opportunity to immerse themselves in new cultures and languages while traveling to different continents. For two-week intervals, Samford offered study abroad trips to Costa Rica, Greece, Italy and London.

"Study abroad gives students a unique opportunity to have a crosscultural experience while advancing their academic progress," said Kyle Bailey, Study Abroad Coordinator. "Guided by Samford professors, students were able to connect the coursework with the context, learning history, culture and language on a much deeper level."

These opportunities for experiential learning were highlighted by the friendships that developed as students traveled together.

"From my time studying abroad in Costa Rica, I have come to find that the most impactful part of these trips has been the friendships I have made," said Meagan Hall, senior sociology major. "When you are completely out of your comfort zone, you are able to make some of the most meaningful and authentic friendships you will ever have."

Through maintaining strong relations overseas, the Global Engagement Office offered students the opportunity to make Greece their classroom in January. Students who chose to embark on this trip had countless, unforgettable memories. Sophomore management and entrepreneurship major Sydney

Murphy said, "My favorite moments in Greece were climbing the 1,000 steps to the top of the fortress in Nafplion and watching the sunset at the Temple of Poseidon on Cape Sounion for our last night."

Embracing a new culture that is different from one's American lifestyle was not always easy, however.

"My trip to London was a difficult, yet greatly rewarding, experience," senior religion and philosophy double major Ross English said. "Once I allowed England to expose its many customs, my experience was enriched."

Through these experiences, students both gained greater global insight and developed a deeper understanding of themselves.

"The entire trip taught me a lot about myself, as I was forced to adapt to a new culture," said sophomore finance and accounting major Anna Claire Pope about her time in Italy.

Over Jan Term, Samford not only educated students on the importance of interacting with different cultures and customs, but also on the calling to be lifelong learners. These trips influenced students' futures and aspirations as they helped to shape the people they are today. Study abroad programs allowed students the chance to bond over their unique experiences while bringing a small piece of the world back to Birmingham.

ARTICLE BY ALLISON KANNE

# Women's Basketball Beats Chattanooga

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga was one of Samford's biggest rivals for women's basketball, so the Saturday game was an important one for the team. The Bulldogs had not beaten the Mocs since 2012, so the intense game-ending score of 48-43 was a huge victory.

"Last year as a freshman, I didn't realize how big the rivalry was between our two teams, so this year, as a sophomore, I understood the rivalry a lot more and was able to have a different mindset," said Destiney Elliott, sophomore forward and elementary education and special education double major. "Beating Chatt was an amazing feeling because we wanted to beat them so badly. No one cared about who played or who scored the most points because we just wanted to win."

"Chatt has been the most dominant team over the years in our conference, so to beat them was a big win for our team," Head Coach

Michael Morris said. "Our team really did a great job of defending them."

The team's strong defense and good free throw shooting were the keys to securing their victory against Chattanooga.

"When we beat Chatt, it was definitely a thrill and an exciting time for our program," said Amara Mayers, senior guard and sports administration major. "I have never beaten Chatt in all four years of playing, and to be able to beat them our last year made it even sweeter. Beating them gave our team a confidence boost that proved we are capable of being the best team in our league."

The women's basketball team ended with a 20-11 season, which was a success for the Bulldogs because they had not had a first 20-winning season since 2012.









I. Brittany Stevens dribbles the ball down the court. 2. Destiney Elliott prepares to take a free throw. 3. Amara Mayers shoots the ball. 4. Ellen Riggins and Krista Stricklin prepare to get the ball from their opponent. 5. Players prepare to get the rebound. 6. Riggins maneuvers around Chattanooga's defense to take a shot. 7. Taylor Reece jumps and shoots despite the Chattanooga players surrounding her. 8. Reece concentrates as she takes a free throw. 9. Elliott runs down the court after getting the ball back from her opponent.

















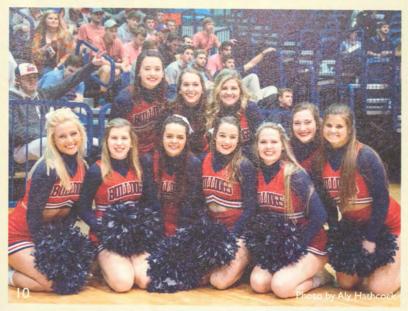


10. Elliott jumps for the ball after it's tipped. 11. Lydia McGee dribbles the ball down the court toward the basket. 12. Mayers, Stevens and Elliott play solid defense and keep Chattanooga from scoring. 13. Riggins, surrounded by defenders, looks for an open teammate.



I. Rachel Loughney smiles at the crowd. 2. Bailey Smith helps get everyone excited for the game. 3. Madeline Allred gets the crowd involved by giving away Cokes and t-shirts. 4. The dance team performs at half court. 5. The cheerleaders encourage the basketball team and lead the crowd in cheering for defense. 6. Cheerleaders finish up a cheer during the game. 7. Margie Terp enjoys leading the Bulldog Dancers in a cheer. 8. Members of the dance team give their all while performing. 9. Cheerleaders interact with game attendees in hopes of generating more spirit and excitement. 10. The cheerleaders pose for a photo together. 11. The Bulldog Dancers huddle together and smile for a photo. 12. Dance team members smile as they perform on the sidelines.

# Cheer And Dance Generate Spirit





n January 23, the cheerleaders and Bulldog Dancers lined up on the sidelines of the women's basketball game against Chattanooga. The women kept the crowd's energy alive as the basketball players achieved a 48-43 victory. Contrary to popular belief, the cheerleaders and Bulldog Dancers do not stop after football season. The women on both teams work together year-round to help encourage campus spirit.

"Being a part of the cheer squad since my freshman year here at Samford has been an amazing experience," said Avery Roberson, junior pharmacy major and cheerleader. "I love being able to express my love for this school by supporting and cheering on the Bulldogs at football games, basketball games and appearances. Spending the year working so closely with the dance team has made this season even more special."

The cheerleaders and Bulldog Dancers, part of the Samford Spirit program, are required to dance at all home football games, basketball games and post-season basketball tournaments. Additionally, the cheerleaders are required to travel to some away games.

"I love being on dance team, and this was a great year because we got

to work closely with the cheerleaders. We have great friendships on both teams," said Mary Amanda Hall, junior nutrition and dietetics major and Bulldog Dancer. "Football season is fun because of the Bulldog Walk and our field show, but I really love basketball season. We get to do more stylized dances for basketball, and we got to go to the SoCon basketball tournament in Asheville for the first time in dance team history."

The women on both teams also performed at special campus events like Step Sing and completed community service projects throughout the semester.

"Even though my favorite role as a Samford cheerleader is being on the sidelines at games, I think our most important responsibility is community involvement," said Rachel Loughney, freshman secondary education major and cheerleader. "The direct interactions we have with the Birmingham community through service and appearances not only impacts us positively as individuals but strengthens the connections between Samford and organizations in our local area. Cheerleading has taught me to be an ambassador for Samford in ways I never imagined!"



ARTICLE BY SARAH KORTA



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# March

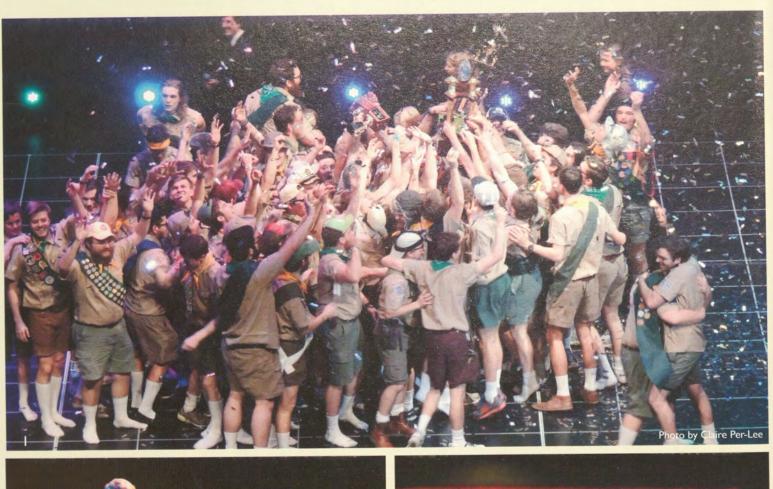
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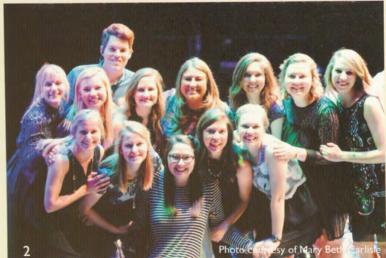
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**// O** 



# Step Sing











1. The boy scouts of Dudes-A-Plenty storm the stage and celebrate their Sweepstakes victory. 2. Step Sing Committee members smile at the conclusion of another successful Step Sing season. 3. Scottie Lenning, Katie Nelson, Mary Beth Carlisle and Paige Acker smile from the stage of the empty Wright Center as they prepare to kick off the Step Sing performances. 4. The animals of Ignite follow Noah's lead and dance their hearts out on Sweepstakes night, bringing home second place. 5. Sisters of Chi Omega sing about their heartbreak and give a convincing performance earning themselves third place.







#### Freshman Ladies Present The Good Steward

Preshman Ladies took on the role of flight attendants aboard the Samford Airlines. The show sought to demonstrate every situation that a stewardess could encounter while aboard flight "FL2019." The performance began as stewardesses welcomed the passengers with the song "Come Fly With Me" by Frank Sinatra. The sequence progressed by showing take off, safety instructions,

refreshments, frustrations, turbulence and the joy of flight. Popular songs from their show were "Little Einsteins' Remix" by 886 Beats and "Airplanes" by Paramore. A favorite moment from the show was their spin on "Bennie and the Jets" by Elton John, where they changed the lyrics to "Freshman Ladies on a Jet."







#### Phi Mu Presents While You Were Sleeping

The Phi Mu tooth fairies were training at their "Castle On A Cloud" when they got the call to go on their first mission. The tooth fairies faced several challenges along the way such as overcoming the team's weakest link, a clumsy fairy named Wanda. The fairies also called in "Mr. Sandman" after their assigned

child began to wake up. The tooth fairies overcame every obstacle and successfully swapped the tooth for a coin, completing their first mission. Some popular songs in the show were the "Mission Impossible Theme," "Price Tag" by Jessie J and "All I Want For Christmas is My Two Front Teeth."





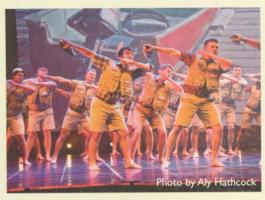


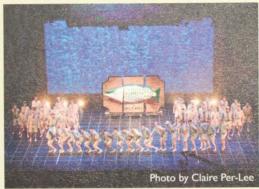
#### Noteworthy Presents I Have A Dream

oteworthy's show centered around the process that makes up a Step Sing show in an *Inception*-based style. Some scenes and major events included practices, tech and dress rehearsals and eventually the show itself. Recognizable songs in the show included "Shut Up and Dance" by Walk the Moon, "Edge of Glory" by Lady Gaga and "I Don't Dance" from the High School Musical

soundtrack. The unique design of creating a show-within-a-show proved intriguing. The theme inside the show was phoenixes. This could be seen through their use of the song "Phoenix" by Fall Out Boy, their use of flames projected on the backdrop and their use of a phoenix formation.

ARTICLE BY KRISTEN JACKSON







#### Alpha Tau Omega Presents Hooked

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) depicted fishermen setting out on a fishing excursion to catch Billy the Bass. They put some entertaining twists on popular songs such as "Watch Me (Whip/Nae Nae)" by Silento when they cast their fishing lines and began reeling in their first catch of the day. Another favorite tune featured during a catch-and-release scene in their show was "Let it

Go" from the Frozen soundtrack by Idina Menzel. ATO's show was notable for how it brought the brothers together and added a mix of humor and adventure to the Step Sing stage. The largest prop used was a rendering of a Big Mouth Billy Bass, the decorative wall mount.







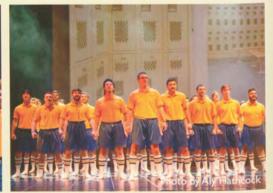
#### Alpha Omicron Pi Presents Hooked

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi brought the game Monopoly to life in their show "Dare to Play." The theme was introduced by their emcee complaining about lack of funds in college. To solve this issue, they decided to go play the board game, Monopoly, in which there is an abundance of paper dollar bills. Some

popular songs included "Brick House" by Lionel Richie and "This is How We Roll" by Florida Georgia Line. A highlight from their show was the participants' creative use of props throughout the show such as the rolling dice, a brick chimney and a moving train.







#### Pi Kappa Phi Presents Call Your Shots

Pi Kappa Phi captured the story of 1970s-esque football coaches, as they guided their high school football team to a state championship victory. Down points at the half, coaches motivated their players and crafted a series of well-thought-out plays. After overcoming several difficulties, the team was victorious and wrote their name in history. Several old school hits such as "Another One

Bites the Dust" by Queen, "Twist & Shout" made popular by the Beatles and "Johnny B. Goode" by Chuck Berry were balanced with some current hits such as "The Nights" by Avicii. A couple of memorable moments include a coach versus referee interaction and a stage-wide dance break.

ARTICLE BY KRISTEN JACKSON







#### Alpha Delta Pi Presents A Whole New World

The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi told the story of aliens coming to earth and meeting humans. The show opened with the aliens making their first appearance on Earth, and as the Alpha Delta Pi aliens prepared to return to outer space, they bid a friendly farewell to their human acquaintances with Taylor Swift's

"Wildest Dreams." Other popular songs featured were "Steal Your Girl" by One Direction and "Stars" by from the Les Misérables soundtrack. A highlight from the show was a dance break to the Star Wars theme song.







#### Independent Ladies Present Your Booking Experts

Indie Ladies presented a day in the life of a librarian. Shortly after the library opened, a cell phone went off, disrupting the quietness and causing pandemonium. The librarians had one goal: for everyone to read and enjoy the library as much as they do. However, once the library closed, the librarians were free to be as loud as they desired. The show included popular songs such as

"Blank Space" by Taylor Swift, "All About That Bass (Those Books)" by Meghan Trainor, "Beat (Read) It" by Michael Jackson, "Baby Got Back (Books)" by Sir Mix-a-Lot and "We R Who We R" by Ke\$ha, among others. A highlight from the show was Indie Ladies' signature move, which was accompanied by props this year.







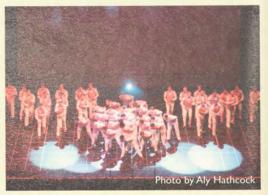
#### Freshman Girls Present Espresso Yourself

Preshman Girls presented the average day of your neighborhood coffee baristas. Audience members got a sneak peek behind the counter to see these baristas dealing with difficult customers, cute co-workers and, of course, caffeine overload. Some popular songs in the show were "I Want It That Way" by the Backstreet Boys, "Black or White" by Michael Jackson and "Wake Me

Up Before You Go Go" by Wham! Overly caffeinated baristas put on a dance break to "Whip My Hair." Another highlight was a modern twist on the classic Broadway tune "Coffee Break" using coffee cups. Freshman Girls were given an award for best moment because of their use of props during the song, "That's Not My Name" by the Ting Tings.







#### Sigma Chi Presents Blades Of Glory

The brothers of Sigma Chi took their audience back in time to a vintage barber shop and walked through a day in the exciting life of a barber. During operation hours, the Sigma Chi barbers were found grooming, shampooing, clipping and shaving. The audience also caught a glimpse of the repercussions and

panic that ensue after a bad haircut. Some popular songs in their show included "Let's Groove (Groom) Tonight" by Earth, Wind & Fire, "Whip (Clip) It" by Devo, "Blame it on the Boogie (Barber)" by The Jacksons and "Barbara Ann (Barber Man)" by The Beach Boys.







#### Spectrum Presents Lost

Spectrum put a unique twist on the classic story of Peter Pan as they followed the story of a young boy who journeyed to the world of Neverland. Shortly after being introduced to the Lost Boys, the young boy got caught up with the pirates and ultimately became Captain Hook. Some of the most popular songs in

the show were "Bad Blood" by Taylor Swift, "Pirates Who Don't Do Anything" from Veggie Tales and "Where Are Ü Now" by Justin Bieber, Skrillex and Diplo. Older hits such as "Bad" by Michael Jackson were also featured. One of the highlights of the show was the step battle between the Lost Boys and Pirates.







### Zeta Tau Alpha Presents For Whom The Bell Tolls

The sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha gave the audience an inside look at a day in the life of a vintage bellhop. After nearly a century of not having anyone check into the hotel, the show opened with the bellhops welcoming new guests to the tune of the Disney favorite "Be Our Guest" from Beauty and the Beast.

Other popular songs from their show were "Chandelier" by Sia, which won the Committee's Choice Award for best song, and "Levels" by Nick Jonas. Zeta Tau Alpha caught the audience's eye when they rolled on stage to Wiz Khalifa's song "I Roll Up" on luggage carts, adding to the upbeat atmosphere of the hotel.

ARTICLE BY KRISTEN JACKSON







#### Dudes A Plenty Presents Bring Them Home

udes-A-Plenty, Samford's 2016 Step Sing Sweepstakes winners, told the story of two rival boy scout troops. The show opened with *The Sound of Music*'s "The Hills Are Alive" by Julie Andrews. Highlights in the show included their performance of "Out of the Woods" by Taylor Swift and their flashlight choreography during the song "Flashlight" by Jessie J. This moment shifted

the mood to a more serious note as they gradually lit up the stage with their flashlights. Another high point was the dance battle between scouts from both troops. The show concluded with the boy scouts finally making it out of the woods. In addition to being awarded Sweepstakes, Dudes-A-Plenty also took home Participants' Choice Award for best music and best choreography.







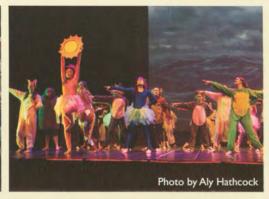
#### Chi Omega Presents Breaking News

Chi Omega placed as the second runner up. They revisited the emotions that a school girl experiences after a breakup. Props included breakup essentials like pizza, ice cream and tissues. Their old flame finally became history when a new guy came along, a new name to doodle in their notebooks. Some popular

songs featured in the show were "Crazy In Love" by Beyoncé, "Say (Write) My Name" by Destiny's Child and "You Give Love A Bad Name" by Bon Jovi. A favorite moment featured a heartbroken girl eating her feelings out of giant Ben & Jerry's ice cream tub.







#### IGnite Presents Pairs

In the ark. Noah and his family built an ark to survive the flood and gathered and animals to come along for the journey. Their most popular songs included "Do You Want To Build A Snowman (Ark)" from the Frozen soundtrack, "Thunderstruck" by ACDC and "I'll Be There For You" by The Rembrandts.

The animals' cover of "Carol of the Bells" captured their journey through the stormy waters. This pivotal scene built suspense of the long days ahead. Some other highlights from the show were the storm beginning, the animals finding their partners and the animals rejoicing when they finally got off the ark. IGnite was also awarded the Participants' Choice Award for best costumes.

# John Howard Statue Dedication



The dedication ceremony for the new John Howard statue, a replica of the original in St. Paul's Cathedral, took place February 13 in Brooks Hall. Dean David Chapman and his team spent over three years making this dream a reality.

"Although most Samford students know about Howard College of Arts and Sciences, only a few of them know about the man for whom it was named," said Dean Chapman.

John Howard devoted his life to prison reform, so prisoners would no longer suffer inhumane treatment. He made it his mission to reduce the sum of human misery. The digital kiosk located next to the statute provided additional information about Howard's life and the story behind the statue's design.

The ceremony served as a dedication as well as an information session for those unfamiliar with Howard's work. Students familiar with Howard's importance found the new statue to be representative of another reason why they love Samford.

"I am proud to know that 175 years ago, a group of individuals decided to start a place of higher learning in humble Marion, Alabama, named after John Howard," said Marisa Nunez, junior psychology major. "In choosing that name, a precedent was set and a mission was born. He provides hope to us that you, though a humble singular person, can do something truly meaningful."

President Westmoreland, who also attended the dedication, inspired students to continue John Howard's legacy.

"Last year our Samford people contributed more than 716,000 hours of community service," Westmoreland said. "I am confident that our people, just like John Howard, are leaving the world better than they found it."

The dedication of the statue helped students better understand "why John Howard" and the impact his name has had on Samford's mission. In his final remarks, Dean Chapman said, "Seeing the statue of a great person, just like reading a great biography, can challenge us to be better than we are."



I. John Howard Scholars attend the unveiling. 2. The choir sings as part of the ceremony. 3. The new statue overlooks Brooks Hall. 4. Dr. Westmoreland helps unveil the statue. 5. Howard Scholars represent their departments by participating in the unveiling. 6. Dean Chapman explains the story and the significance of John Howard. 7. Music students play a beautiful piece during the program. 8. Audrey Barth, Karlee Van Dyk and other ambassadors represent Arts and Sciences well. 9. Students address those gathered for the ceremony. 10. Dr. Westmoreland anxiously awaits the reveal. 11. Howard Scholars display their matching t-shirts in honor of the event. 12. History students talk with their peers about Howard College and about their majors.



ARTICLE BY HAILIE BAGLEY





























I. Wisdom Bibbs's younger brother enjoys performing for his audience. 2. Kayla Chambers, Paige Moore and Erica Smith represent their sorority at the event. 3. Students enjoy the concert and time spent together. 4. Wisdom Bibbs sings his heart out. 5. Cody Fry gets the crowd excited between songs. 6. Bibbs chats with friends after a successful set. 7. Students from SEB pose with Bibbs and celebrate a successful event. 8. Bibbs and his brother perform together. 9. Fry's bandmate accompanies him on the drums during the set. 10. Symone Hutchinson, Courtney Jenkins and Eden Harris show their support at Harry's. II. Friends huddle together and smile.





# Harry's Black History Month Concert



The Black Student Union (BSU) sought to uplift minority students by creating an encouraging community on campus. BSU service projects and events were aimed to inspire the development of relationships between minority students and the entire student body.

"All of these things are done to create a positive outlook on minorities," said Brianna Walker, senior marketing major and BSU president. "The Black Student Union gives them an outlet to express themselves within their race and expand the opinions and minds of other races."

As it was the mission of the Black Student Union to encourage campus community, the BSU partnered with the Student Activities Council (SAC) to host a Harry's Coffee House concert. The event was held February 18 in honor of Black History Month. Together, students celebrated historical remembrance as they sang along to the songs of opening artist, Wisdom Bibbs and headline artist Cody Fry.

The concert provided an opportunity for students from all over campus to unite in Harry's Coffee House, one of students' most beloved meeting places. "I've been so excited to come play here," Fry said. "It's like a right of passage to play at Harry's Coffeehouse."

Students waited outside the doors for the concert to begin, sharing their excited remarks. Many knew of Cody Fry from his tours with celebrity singer-songwriter Ben Rector.

Junior vocal performance major Madison Martin was happy to see Cody perform solo. "His covers are awesome," Martin said. "He has a beautiful voice, and he is a great performer."

Students were especially happy to see their very own classmate Wisdom Bibbs perform on the same stage as Cody Fry.

"We love Wisdom. His music is authentic, about everyday problems students can relate to," said Maddie Lowry, junior vocal performance major.

A huge audience filled Harry's Coffee House that night. Both the BSU leaders and SAC leaders were overwhelmed by the turnout and by the success of the partnership.

"The Harry's concert with BSU's own Wisdom Bibbs as the opener was a raging success and hopefully not the last time BSU partners with other organizations on campus," said Walker. "This was the start of BSU and minorities on campus branching out to other aspects of campus to encourage unity at Samford."



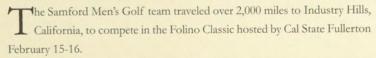




ARTICLE BY OLIVIA HALVERSON

#### Men's Golf Folino Classic





The Bulldogs fired a three-round team total of 875 to come out on top of the 10-team field. This was the team's first tournament win since November 4, 2012.

Senior Zach Hughes led Samford with a three-round score of two-overpar 218 (73-71-74). Hughes tied for third out of 57 golfers in the event.

"It was awesome to see all of the hard work we've been doing pay off," Hughes said. "To be able to go all the way across the country and win like that was so much fun. It showed that if we just keep doing what we've been doing, we could have some big things ahead."

Junior Ashton Nix tied for fourth in the tournament, with a score of 219 (71-72-76). Samford's third top-10 finisher was freshman Aaron Walker, tying



for ninth overall with a total score of 221 (71-79-71).

"Winning the Folino Classic was a big boost for our program," Head Coach Al DelGreco said. "Success makes you realize that the hard work put in on the golf course will pay off."

"When you win, it's not only the act of winning that you relish but the path to get there," DelGreco said. "It was great to see the excitement of winning in their eyes. My goal is to see that excitement on a regular basis."

Rounding out the team were freshman Crawford Flach, who tied for 12th with a three-round total of 222 (69-77-76), and junior Robert Adams, who tied for 25th with a final score of 228 (79-74-75).

"It was awesome. To fly all the way out to California and take first place against competition like that was an inspirational feeling," Flach said. "It showed our team what we're really capable of. We can do big things if we continue working hard."







1. Robert Adams lines up his shot. 2. Ashton Nix follows through and watches how far his shot goes. 3. Austin Jackson relaxes on the green until it is his turn to putt. 4. Zach Hughes replaces his marker with his golf ball, ready to take his next stroke. 5. Crawford Flach assesses his position and prepares to putt the ball.

ARTICLE BY ASHTON NIX

#### Women's Frisbee Hat Tournament

Samford Deception, the new Women's Club Ultimate Frisbee team, was committed to "meeting new people and making stronger bonds with your own team," according to Anna Sikkink, sophomore Latin American studies major and team captain. One way the team tried to achieve this was by cohosting an Ultimate Frisbee Hat Tournament with University of Alabama at Birmingham's Women's Club Ultimate team. On February 20, about 150 ultimate Frisbee enthusiasts from all over the Southeast were throwing flicks and backhands on the Samford intramural fields.

"The hat tournament exposed and challenged girls to strive higher," said Sikkink. "Seeing better competition keeps us humble, hungry and sets us in a position to keep hustling. That's what the hat tournament brought to our new team, and it is something that I deeply value."

The teams had the opportunity to raise funds through this event. Samford Deception raised \$400 for future expenses.

"The hat tournament was a great way to meet new people and to fundraise for our team," said Chandler McLarren, senior communication studies major. "All of the team names were based off of cat themes. I had a lot of fun being on team Grumpy Catz, despite the fact that we lost in the semi-finals to our arch rivals Meow Chicka Meow Meow. The hat tournament was a way for us to be outside of the Samford bubble and meet new people. It was cool to see their dedication for the game. It's safe to say that we all left with many new Facebook friends and throwing mates. I look forward to the hat tournament next year."

As a new team, Samford Deception worked diligently to create community within the team and with other ultimate players.

"Playing in tournaments is a great opportunity for our team to meet other women who love the sport we love and to learn from them," said Anna Millar, sophomore math and secondary education double major. "It is also a cool way to represent Christ by playing fair, treating other teams with respect and loving our own teammates well. The way we act on and off the field is a testimony to other teams, and that is important to us."











1. The Women's Club Ultimate Frisbee team poses for a group photo. 2. Lizzie Kolakoski throws the Frisbee to a teammate. 3. Captains Anna Miller, Sky Sikkink and Lee Kennedy smile and show off their team tank tops. 4. The team makes sure to take a silly picture in addition to a regular team photo. 5. Chandler McLarren smiles with her teammates Sikkink and Kolakoski after practice.

#### Breathe Retreat

Breathe Retreat was a 24-hour event hosted by the Office of Spiritual Life February 19-20 at Springville Camp and Conference Center. While most retreats have a jam-packed schedule with session after session, Breathe Retreat gave participants the chance to slow down, relax and breathe.

"The weekend is set up to allow the heart and the mind to focus on Jesus in a way that is quite difficult to accomplish otherwise," said Thomas Wildeman, junior marketing major and Office of Spiritual Life intern. "We take part in communal silence, scripture reading, worship and physical activity. During free time, we spend a lot of time doing our own things. This allowed each of us to respond to God in our own ways while also allowing Him to speak to us personally."

Breathe Retreat has been an annual event for several years. In past years, the retreat consisted of a plethora of stations that students could visit and emphasized a wide range of experiences at each station. Though the retreat had been well-liked and well-attended in previous years, it took on a new focus in 2016. The schedule changed, and the retreat as a whole was simplified.

"This year Breathe was really unique because there was an emphasis put on reading Scripture. Collectivity, we were given the challenge to read the entire bible in our 24-hour retreat," Chrissy Hessing, senior nursing major, said. "Each person read an average of 30-40 chapters. It was so cool to rally around a purpose–reading and seeing the continuity of God's Word."

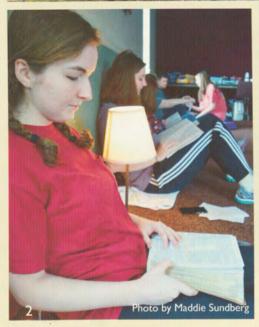
While Breathe Retreat was simpler, it was still a great time of learning.

"Experiences like Breathe retreat are what push me out of my comfort zone," freshman communication studies major Sarah Margaret Spivey said. "I realized that this is what helps me grow spiritually."

Breathe Retreat was a time of rejuvenation, rest and community building for those who went on the trip. Strategically placed the weekend after Step Sing, Breathe Retreat came at an opportune time to give students the rest they needed.

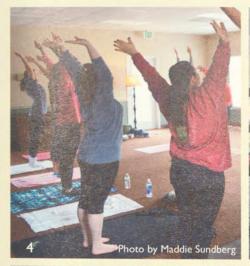
"After the craziness of Step Sing season, the retreat is the best way to simply get away and rest, relax and be with Jesus," Hessing said. "I look forward to it every year!"







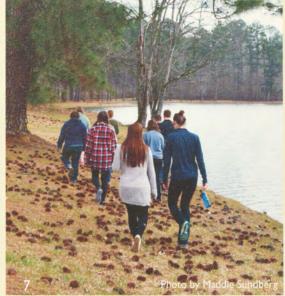
1. Students pause to enjoy the outdoors and reflect during Breathe Retreat. 2. Kristen Jackson and Morgan Rhodes spend time reading their Bibles and resting in the Lord's presence. 3. Students unwind by practicing yoga together.

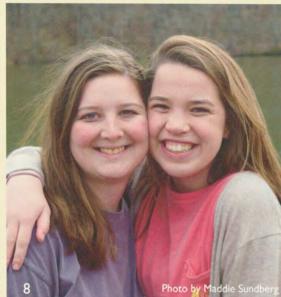




4. Students stretch out and focus on breathing as part of a relaxation exercise. 5. Friends set up their hammocks and spend an afternoon hammocking together. 6. Thomas Wildeman points out the beautiful scenary to friends. 7. A group enjoys a quiet nature walk around the lake. 8. Morgan Rhodes and Jami Golden smile and enjoy time together on the retreat. 9. Byron Fogo holds up a pine cone and poses on the nature trail. 10. Students listen intently during a devotional time. 11. Kristen Jackson and Maddie Sundberg watch as students play by the lake. 12. Chrissy Hessing and Brooke Hogoboom chat by the river while Rhodes, enjoys nature with friends Caroline Carmichael and Jess Merkle. 13. Natlie Laurence spends the afternoon thinking and relaxing.











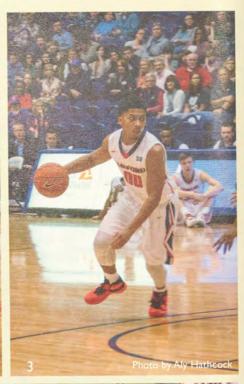
























1. Alex Peters talks with Iman Johnson as they run down the court. 2. Players look for the rebound. 3. Christen Cunningham dribbles the ball and prepares to take a shot. 4. Cunningham moves past a defender and runs toward the basket. 5. Darius Jones-Gibson looks to pass the ball to a teammate. 6. The Bulldogs set up to play defense. 7. Wyatt Walker looks for the ball. 8. Johnson takes the ball down the court. 9. Cunningham passes the ball. 10. Jones-Gibson watches to see if his shot goes in. 11. Cunningham prepares to pass the ball to Peters. 12. Jones-Gibson considers his next play.

# Men's Basketball Senior Night

The Bulldogs battled against the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) for their home finale and senior night February 20. The four seniors recognized at the game were guard Darius Jones-Gibson, forward Iman Johnson, guard Marcus Johnson and guard/forward Jamal Shabazz. The Bulldogs finished their last home game with a victory, 73-67, and ended the season with a 6-7 record.

Marcus Johnson sealed the Bulldogs' victory by shooting a three-pointer with only 30 seconds left on the clock. "That was the perfect last shot in Pete Hanna, something I will always remember for the rest of my life," said Johnson, senior sports administration major.

"I was so happy that we won the game and that we all contributed, but I was very sad that it was my last game ever in the Pete," said Jamal Shabazz, senior sports administration major. "It's been an eventful two years, and I'm sad it had to end, but at least it ended with a win."

All four seniors played well in their fight against VMI, and Wyatt Walker,

freshman center, also had a great game, scoring a team-high of 14 points.

"Darius Jones-Gibson is not only a great player; he's a true leader," said Walker, freshman pre-business major. "Ever since I arrived at Samford, he has always been there to help me on and off the court. He is everything you could ever ask for in a leader."

The Southern Conference also honored three Bulldogs this season. Darius Jones-Gibson received Third-Time All-SoCon honors while Matt Rose and Walker were named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team.

"Coming from where we were when I took over to now, I think we have come a long way," head coach Scott Padgett said. "There have been some highs and some lows, but no matter what, our guys never quit. This group of seniors will play a role in our improvement in years to come because they have laid a foundation of hard work and perseverance that our future players will carry on."







1. Members of RUF are excited to have arrived in Tennessee. 2. The students pose on their stop at a waterfall. 3. The waterfalls are popular hiking destinations for the students. 4. Friends hug and smile for a photo. 5. Gracie Donoghue, Marge Winchester and Olivia Knight enjoy the waterfall. 6. The RUF girls pose at the park. 7. Mikayla Scarburough, Allie Sanderson, Maddy Kross and Lydia Kucera share a time of fellowship before bed. 8. Anna Malles and Taylor Bartuska smile as they take in the sight of the waterfall. 9. Anna Patton, Kerith Helms, Bartuska and Kross appreciate their time together on the trip. 10. Hannah Jones, Bartuska and Scarburough pose before a seminar. 11. Fall Creek Falls State Park provides beautiful scenery for the conference. 12. RUF members enjoy the retreat and relaxing time spent together as a community.





















#### RUF Winter Conference



A fter the madness of Step Sing, more than 30 students went on a winter retreat to Fall Creek Falls State Park in Tennessee with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF). The Samford RUF group was joined by several other RUF campuses for a weekend of relaxing and recharging after a busy start to the semester.

"Winter Conference is a great way to take a break from school and get to know more people in RUF while also refocusing on Christ," said Erin Roundtree, freshman pre-pharmacy major.

While there, students had the opportunity to attend various seminars taught by RUF pastors, hike the waterfalls around the state park and worship with over 700 other college students from Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia.

"What was most impactful to me was a seminar I attended on justification, where I realized how much I try to have faith in my own faith instead of coming to Christ empty-handed, realizing my desperate need for Him and to drink of His fullness," said Emily London, freshman English and classics double-major.

The main speaker for the weekend was Russ Whitfield, a pastor, churchplanter and musician from the Washington DC area.

Whitfield spoke about the different stories by which students define themselves, such as success and achievement, and he challenged students instead to live by the mercy and hope God offers.

"It opened my eyes to realize that I am deeply loved by the Lord and that I am worthy because of Him," said Gracie Donoghue, freshman journalism and mass communication major.

Outside of Winter Conference, members stayed involved with RUF through weekly group gatherings, Bible studies and other fellowship events.

"Tuesday nights' large group sessions are structured with worship and teaching, but our other events tend to be much more laid back," said Matt Terrell, RUF campus minister. Other events included Fall Conference, a tacky Christmas sweater party, Parks and Recreation binging nights and Summer Conference.



ARTICLE BY ALY HATHCOCK

## Indoor Track And Field So Con Championships



The Bulldogs hosted the SoCon Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Birmingham CrossPlex February 26-27, and both the men and women's programs left the meet with new records on the board.

Kimmy Ruch, senior health science major, was a part of the winning 4x400 meter relay with the relay team coming, away with a record time of 3:48.69. The senior ran the hardest she had ever run and was extremely proud of the hard work from the other girls on her relay team: Sarah Sanford, Abbie Cutcliffe and Victoria Wicks.

"Western Carolina is Samford track's rival in our conference, and they have never been beaten in that particular event," Ruch said. "At the meet, the energy was tangible; our 4x400 meter relay was able to beat Western, bring home a gold medal and secure a spot on the record board."

Outstanding performances by the women's program earned them the title of SoCon Indoor Track and Field Champions. Karisa Nelson, Ansley Boss and Emma Garner performed well in the women's mile, while Megan Meadow placed second in the triple jump. Aerial Horton placed second in the weight throw.

"The women's program really put on a show at our indoor championships," Head Coach Rod Tiffin said. "It was really fun to watch these young ladies compete at their best when everything was on the line; there were so many personal bests and personal triumphs that weekend. Every time I turned around, someone was doing something great to help win the championship. I was truly impressed with their heart and with the team's performance."

The men's program was able to place in individual events and set the



records high for future runners.

Brandon Hazouri took home the individual championship in both the 800-meter run and in the mile.

"It has been so amazing to be a part of this program for the past four years," Brandon Hazouri, senior sports administration major, said. "The people and teammates that I have been able to surround myself with and the leadership I have been able to run under is unlike anything I could have ever hoped for coming in as a freshman."

Arsene Guillorel broke the Samford, Birmingham CrossPlex and Southern Conference records in the men's 5,000-meter race.

The Bulldogs were also able to secure first, second and third place in the men's pole vault thanks to Tray Oates, Austin Eckenroth and Gavin Gautreau.

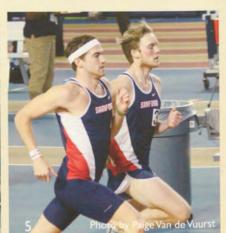
The excitement continued with Drew Patterson and Austin Billings achieving personal bests in the men's heptathlon. Patterson also set a new record in the men's 1,000 meters.

"It was an overwhelming experience for me; I was just coming off a hamstring injury I have been battling since January," Patterson, junior sports administration major, said. "I give all the glory to God for allowing me to be healthy for the meet. It was a wonderful personal accomplishment, but as a team we want to go back to work and make sure we win conference in the outdoor season."

"We had to battle from start to finish and somehow came out with a runner up trophy. The tenacity that they showed will carry over into future championships and serve as a life lesson," Coach Tiffin said.







ARTICLE BY PAIGE SHELBY

















1. Kimmy Ruch leaps over a hurdle with record speed. 2. Jay Vines pulls ahead as he rounds the corner of the track. 3. Jordan Highsmith and Qiona Peyton sprint toward the next hurdle. 4. Javion Lee runs down the track to compete in the long jump. 5. Adam Jones and Andrew Jaeger push each other as they race. 6. Aerial Horton smiles proudly after being awarded a SoCon medal. 7. Abbie Cutcliffe and Victoria Wicks run their best during a race. 8. Brandon Hazouri brings home a victory for his team in the 800-meter run. 9. Marquis Barnes concentrates on running his best in each race. 10. Selena Popp and Hannah Hardy pose with their new medals. 11. Emily Eustace skillfully pole vaults her way through the air. 12. Keyth Fightmaster flies through the air, trying to win for the Bulldogs. 13. Sarah Lee prepares to compete in the pole vaulting competition.

#### Divers ABILITY Game Night

DiversABILITY is an advocacy organization providing a voice for disabled students on campus. During one awareness event February 26, students went through simulations to experience the effects of disabilities. The first simulation exhibited dyslexia through a game where everyone was given a letter and had to arrange themselves into a phrase in a set time. The phrase was written backwards or with the letters in the incorrect order, making it difficult to understand and organize.

"This ended up being much more difficult than I expected," said Mary Emma Campbell, freshman human development and family life education major. "It gave me a glimpse of what dyslexic students deal with daily."

During the second simulation, one member went outside, where they were blindfolded and given a household item. They had to determine what the item was and draw it, still blindfolded, exposing the challenges faced by those who are blind. In a later simulation, participants were asked to trace a word on each person's palm. The word went down the line and at the end, it was a completely different word than it started, further revealing struggles of blindness.

Later, a race exposed the challenges faced by those with cerebral palsy

and paralysis. A specific disability was called and the participants had to dress themselves in massive clothing with the difficulties of that disability.

"I didn't realize how hard it was for disabled students to do basic tasks like getting ready," said Hannah Blazer, freshman exercise science major. "I think that we take a lot of our abilities for granted, but coming to this, I learned we should not."

After the simulations, the group sat down, discussed the simulations and reflected on what they had experienced. Many shared struggles they had experienced or had seen in others.

"Many people notice disabilities immediately but pretend they do not because it's awkward," said Meg Kellenberger, senior psychology major and president of DiversABILITY. "This was a good time for anyone to ask any questions that they were afraid to ask before."

Numerous inquiries were addressed, making the reflection time very insightful. The DiversABILITY awareness event excelled at spreading knowledge and understanding of what students with disabilities struggle with on a daily basis.











I. Meg Kellenberger leads the group in each game to simulate what it feels like to live with various disabilities. 2. The group smiles for a photo after a fun evening of games. 3. Sarah Pryor helps Kellenberger facilitate a game simulating blindness. 4. Students work together to accomplish goals while experiencing various challenges. 5. Taylor Gabriel helps carry a teammate to complete a relay.

#### Students Debate Japanese National Team



n March 1, the debate team hosted a lively event with Japan's National Debate Team, primarily focusing on the United States' military presence in Japan.

Through preparation for the debate, members of the team had the chance to learn more about a pressing issue that involved not only American concerns, but also broader questions of security in Northeast Asia.

"We did some more specific research and constructed our speeches, adapting them to a public audience as opposed to our usual audience of debate coaches and judges," senior communication studies major Natalie Bennie said. "I looked forward to hearing the Japanese perspective on a topic that we had only researched from the American side. Their insights were really moving and definitely made me rethink the issue."

According to students and faculty involved with the debate team, the opportunity to debate the Japanese national debate yearn reflected the strength of the program.

"This particular event also helped strengthen some international ties

between our program and debaters across the globe, which is fantastic," Bennie said. "The committee that organizes the tour had a nationwide call for host sites for the Japanese team to visit, and our application was accepted."

Dr. Ryan Galloway, debate team coach, said, "I thought the event was remarkably successful, and we look forward to hosting international delegations in the future."

Students also viewed the event as a way to for the debate program to connect with the rest of campus.

"This event gave us the opportunity to show students on campus what debate looks like," junior political science major Marley Davis said. "Samford chose to invite the Japanese national debate team to our campus because we felt like our international students would enjoy seeing the Japanese national debate team."

Members of the debate team displayed their strong communication and research skills in this cross-cultural event in a way that reflected well of the program and the university's international ties.



I. Marley Davis and Natalie Bennie pose with the members of the Japanese debate team after the debate. 2. Ryan Galloway facilitates the debate. 3. The Japanese debate team makes their argument while refuting the arguments of their opponent. 4. Davis confidently addresses those in attendance and builds a solid argument.

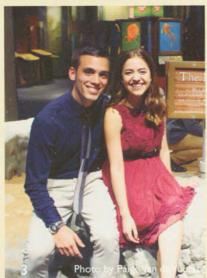




ARTICLE BY EMILY LONDON



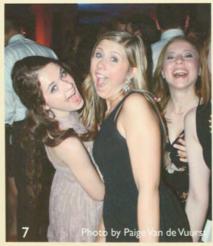


















1. Kelsey Robertson, Erica Disbrow and Laura Berkhouse show off their best dance dance moves. 2. Friends come together from all across campus, all dressed up and ready to enjoy the fun. 3. Dan Russo and Katie McCrory explore the McWane Center together. 4. Meg Kellenberger and Rachel Frey enjoy the party. 5. Ben Crabtree and his friends hit the whip on the dance floor. 6. Students do the Cha Cha Slide on the dance floor. 7. Kirsten Atfield jumps in for a picture with friends. 8. Luke DeMarco, Anna Lay and Luke Lay try out the excavation exhibit.

#### Residence Life Hosts Beeson Ball

n Friday, March 4, the Department of Residence Life held its annual Beeson Ball at the McWane Science Center in downtown Birmingham. The event was the most successful to date, with fun music, delicious refreshments and the opportunity to explore the museum.

The department of residence life put on four large events throughout the year, with Beeson Ball drawing the largest attendance. In addition to these events, however, resident assistants, resident managers and residence life coordinators worked tirelessly all year round to ensure that students had the opportunity to commune with one another in a fun and safe environment.

"Living in a residence hall provides students the opportunity to be involved in a community with members on a hall as well as with the larger university community," said Lauren Taylor, assistant vice president of residence life. "The department of residence life provides social activities, both on and off campus, as a way for residents to make connections with the communities around them."

Whether hosting events, planning activities or simply facilitating residence hall functions, the staff and students who made up residence life

truly enjoyed their role on campus.

"I really enjoy planning events for the residents on my hall because it allows me to find a common ground for all my residents," said Jay Mike Johnson, sophomore business management major and resident assistant. "Whether it's going off campus and doing something or just free food in my room, I really enjoy creating opportunities for the students to connect with and relate to the other residents on the hall."

Many students felt that residence life had a positive impact on their Samford experience. Anna-Drake Stephens, a freshman history major, was no exception.

"My RA has positively impacted my Samford experience because of all the little things she does," Stephens said. "Whether it is celebrating my successes or always being down for an adventure, she is there for me. She is inclusive, helpful and so funny. She is not only my RA, but also my friend!"

Whether throwing extravagant parties like Beeson Ball or simply creating community among a group of strangers, residence life made Birmingham home for many.







9. Students pose for photos in the optical illusion exhibits. 10. Ben Tidwell and friends dance the night away. 11. The crowd forms a dance circle as students take turns showing off their moves. 12. Students take a break and watch the action from a nearby table. 13. Marisa Askew, Regan Chewning, Claire Per-Lee, Madeline Rhine and Lauren Sims smile for a photo to commemorate their last Beeson Ball.

# A Midsummer Night's Dream Performance

A udiences were charmed by fairies, actors and lovers as the theatre department performed the 40th anniversary production of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. This production celebrated not only 40 years since the first Samford performance of this Shakespearean comedy, but also the 40th anniversary of the first performance after the construction of the Harrison Theatre.

The Shakespeare production proved a challenge because much of the old English dialogue is lost on an audience. John Perine, a freshman theatre major who played the role of Egeus, explained that this obstacle must be overcome with physical acting elements.

"Our director, Mark Castle, focused on allowing Shakespeare's text to be accessible to audiences who might not be well-versed in the Bard's words through our actions and technical elements," Perine said.

A bigger obstacle still was the pressure for the new cast to maintain the integrity of the original performance, returning to the Samford stage after 40 years. Reprising the roles of a cast that introduced the Samford theatre department was no small task. Senior theatre major Reagan Dobbs considered playing Hermia to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"It was a collaboration spanning 40 years!" Dobbs said. "So that being

said, everything I did was in a striving effort to build up the entire production and never even think of tearing a part down."

Samford directors continued to open their arms to students campuswide by holding open auditions for most performances, like the original production, which consisted mostly of non-theatre majors. Senior German and finance double major Isaac Espy had performed in multiple mainstage shows despite his major.

"When I came in as a freshman, the theatre department was advertising open auditions for *King Lear*," Espy said. "I love Shakespeare, so I started getting a monologue together to audition with. The rest is history."

The theatre department performed approximately six mainstage shows during the year, from musicals to plays. Just like any other extracurricular, performing and attending shows were well-worth the time commitment for students.

"If anyone were to contemplate whether they had time in their schedule to fit it in, I would say do it," Espy said. "If you love something, don't let time constraints keep you apart from it. You make time for the things you love, and you won't ever regret it."







I. Kendra Ball charms as an enchanting fairy. 2. Morganne Best and JD Myers work their magic as the fairy king and queen. 3. Katie Beazley captivates Daniel Armbrust. 4. The Pyramus and Thisbe actors perform their play. 5. A character cries over Armbrust. 6. Armbrust walks around the forest as Bottom. 7. The fairies entice Armbrust.









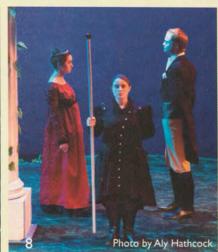








Photo by Aly Hathcock





8. Cassie Brown faces Isaac Espy as another character stands guard. 9. Addison Debter, Kaitlin Moore, Reagan Dobbs and Cody Sparks spend time together. 10. The fairies circle around Myers. 11. The fairy ladies gather for a meeting with Myers. 12. Ball and Myers talk as Debter sleeps. 13. Best struts across the stage.

#### Space Day



n March 14, the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education (OBB) hosted its annual Space Day, an event meant to serve as a send-off party for Trace Crossings Elementary School fourth graders. The students then headed to space camp at the Huntsville Space and Rocket Center the following week.

The fourth graders journey began on the quad. Then the students traveled into the depths of Books Auditorium and later zoomed to OBB. At each location, education students led them in a series of lessons about a specific element of space.

By the day's end, the fourth graders journeyed to the moon and all eight major planets, mapped constellations in the night sky, communicated with astronauts through NASA mission control and launched their own rockets into the atmosphere.

The school of education, having partnered with Trace Crossings for several years, was thrilled to have the young students on campus.

"Everyone gets excited and there is a special buzz in the air in OBB," said Dr. Amy Hoaglund, education professor.

Not only was it exciting to have the fourth graders on campus but also to have a school of education alumna, and current Trace Crossings teacher, back on campus to share in the experience.

"The best part about returning to Samford for Space Day was being able to 'go back home," said Haley Brown, 2013 OBB graduate. "Coming back to Space Day was very special because I remember being a pre-service teacher and planning the events of the day and how fun and exciting it was then. This time, I was able to bring my classroom of students to participate."

The day could not have happened without detailed planning by both OBB students and faculty.

"Planning Space Day 2016 was rewarding because everyone came together to make the event best for the students," junior elementary education major Lauren Hughes said of planning efforts. "There is nothing quite like teamwork. It was evident from the positive reactions of the students that the day was a huge success."

Space Day 2016, a day of learning and fun, was clearly "out of this world."





I. Education students gather for a group photo on the quad to commemorate Space Day. 2. Michelle Lawless leads a lesson, asking students which planet they would want to visit. 3. Abby Frady talks with students as they walk to their next Space Day activity. 4. Abby Johnson waits while one of her students pauses to tie his shoe. 5. Chelsea Bowden, Lindsay Donahoo, Dabney Chitwood and Lawless pose with the Space Day banner.





















6. Emily Freeman, Anna Boldt, Emily Eustace and Hailey Brown help carry a student down Centennial Walk so he can participate in the next activity. 7. Lindsey Hancock and Abby Prutzman engage students with a hands-on exercise. 8. Prutzman, Lynn Putnam and Hancock work together to teach students about the Big Dipper. 9. Frady and her peers captivate students' attention. 10. Putnam gets students excited as they walk across campus. 11. Sarah Hambleton and Mary Kathryn Gates interact with those in the classroom. 12. Students are surrounded by elaborate space-themed decorations. 13. The walls are covered in planets and stars, perfect for the day's festivities.















I. Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha pose with the guest speaker. 2. AKA president Alexis Crutchfield addresses AKA members and guests in the Howard Room. 3. Madeline Mandato excitedly holds her pie that she will throw at Miranda Agun, while Cody Brooks prepares Crutchfield for what is coming. 4. Brooks prepares to throw a pie into Crutchfield's face. 5. Students take turns throwing pies at AKA members in Ben Brown. 6. Students gather in Harry's for an evening of Zumba with the sisters of AKA. 7. Erin Carley and Brionna Holt prepare pies for students in Ben Brown. 8. Grace Okoro watches as Crutchfield gets pied in the face. 9. Sisters of AKA get into the Zumba steps being taught in Harry's. 10. Carley, Agun, Holt, Crutchfield, Kyra Forman and Robyn Thomas pose while throwing the AKA sign. 11. Jhamall Wright anxiously awaits the right time to pie Agun. 12. Crutchfield and Forman laugh as they wipe whipped cream from their faces.





# Alpha Kappa Alpha Week

From a Women's History Month celebration and a relationship seminar to a food truck fundraiser and clothing drive, the Omicron Mu chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) hosted a festive AKA Week, full of service and social events for the Samford and Birmingham communities.

From March 13-17, the sisters of AKA facilitated a series of engaging events to fundraise and generate awareness for different service organizations in the Birmingham community.

"The purpose of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., focuses on 'service to all mankind;' therefore, during AKA Week our focus was to serve and benefit mankind," said junior nursing major Shakeira Newson. "Specifically on Samford's campus, this means providing opportunities for the student body to see firsthand how our sorority serves and inviting everyone to get involved."

Many of the AKA Week events had a great turnout, as much of the student body came together to get involved.

"Our Women's History Month Celebration had representation from

each sorority on campus, and our 'Pie an AKA' event attracted dozens of students from all over campus," said junior exercise science major and AKA vice president Robyn Thomas. "Even our relationship seminar had a room full of students, eager and ready with questions on how to properly approach a relationship from a Christian perspective."

The sisters of AKA could not have been more pleased with the results of AKA Week and hoped that the event would only gain more popularity and attention in the future.

"Being a senior and reflecting on my time in this chapter, I couldn't be more proud of how far we have come and the relationships we have built through hosting events the Samford community actually makes an effort to be a part of," said senior psychology major and AKA secretary Erin Carley. "We still have a long way to go, but as far as starting points are concerned, I think this is a pretty good one."





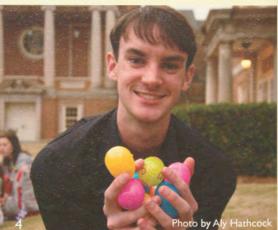


ARTICLE BY VICTORIA SHELTON

















I. Kaitlin Moore, Isaac Espy and Anna Dunbar excitedly display their treasures from the hunt. 2. Cody Sparks, Chris Kawell and Ken Gammada collect their prizes. 3. Enthusiastic participants show off their eggs. 4. After the hunt, students have hands full of eggs to exchange for prizes. 5. Students line up in front of Hodges Chapel as they wait for the hunt to begin. 6. The Easter Bunny visits campus to add to the festive celebration. 7. Austin Clark discusses prizes with other participants. 8. Friends enjoy refreshments and cupcakes after the Easter egg hunt. 9. At the end of the countdown, students race toward the quad in search of eggs. 10. Members of the Student Activities Council work hard to create a great event for their peers.

# SAC Easter Egg Hunt



Springtime presented many exciting events around campus. One of the most highly anticipated events was the annual Student Activity Council (SAC) Easter egg hunt March 17. Two thousand eggs were stuffed with decadent candies and special prizes provided by community sponsors. After the hunt, a spread of tasty treats and free pizza awaited students who watched or participated in the hunt.

"It was fun being able to get involved with the community," said Brook English, freshman English major and member of the SAC special events committee. "They were generous with their gifts for the hunt this year, and I am glad we had such a good turnout of students."

As the crowd of students filed in behind the starting line, it was evident that a competitive spirit was abundant. While waiting for the hunt to begin, sophomore journalism and mass communication major Olivia Odom reflected on her experience at the Easter egg hunt.

"It feels like Black Friday," Olivia said. "Everyone just runs around, and it can get kind of scary."

In previous years, Olivia felt that she and her friends were not aggressive enough and only retrieved a few eggs. However, the 2016 hunt was a different story. Armed with empty grocery bags and determined spirits, Olivia and her friends stood ready at the starting line among many other eager egg hunters.

"Ten, nine, eight..." the crowd counted down. Behind a band of yellow caution tape, students assumed their ready positions. "Three, two, one..." and the hunters were off. In a matter of minutes, all 2,000 eggs that had been scattered across the quad had disappeared, collected into countless students' grocery bags.

Several students gathered around to observe the entertaining spectacle on the quad. "It was like an ambush," said Anne Chason Wachter, freshman elementary education major. "You could hear the hunters running from Ben Brown Plaza." After seeing how much fun students had participating in the hunt, Wachter said, "I wanted to be out there. Next year, I'll be at the front of the line."



ARTICLE BY OLIVIA HALVERSON

#### Women's Golf Tournament







The Samford women's golf team finished fifth in the Samford University Women's Intercollegiate Tournament, held at Greystone Golf and Country Club in Birmingham. Schools like Troy, South Alabama, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Belmont and West Georgia were in attendance.

Troy finished first with a three-round total of 870 (301-276-293), with Charleston Southern coming in a close second at 901 (301-293-307). Samford held their own, finishing with a three-round total of 924 (305-311-308).

Samford had a great day, with multiple players placing in the top 30. Emily Uhland tied for 14th with a score of 229 (75-77-77). Hayley Wagner, who played as an individual, also tied for 14th with a score of 229 (74-86-69).

Anna Buchanan finished 23rd in the 58-player field with a three-round

total of 233 (79-80-74). Hayley Harrington (78-76-80) and Madeline Davis (73-79-82) both ended in a tie for 24th at 234.

"Despite the fact that our team was extremely young this year, we still had a great season," said Haley Harrington, junior biology major. "One of my favorite tournaments of the season was our home tournament, held at Greystone Country Club. It was such an enjoyable experience to be able to play competitively on our home course with the best teammates I could ask for."

The team finished the 2015-2016 season strong with a fifth place finish in the Southern Conference Championship.





I. Crockett Floyd swings to hit the ball across the course. 2. Madeline Davis notes where her ball is and considers her next stroke. 3. Anna Buchanan carefully putts the ball into the hole. 4. Kate Collom follows through on her stroke and watches how far the ball goes. 5. Floyd receives direction and advice from Coach Rachel Ingram.

ARTICLE BY SARAH KORTA

# High Tide Ultimate Frisbee Tournament

Por many college students, Frisbee is just a fun game to play on the quad or a disc to throw to the dog at the park, but add the word "ultimate," and it becomes something much more. For the men's ultimate club team, Frisbee was not just a fun activity, it was a lifestyle. Over the course of the year, the Samford club team, Dogma, competed in three major tournaments, beating teams from Auburn, Ole Miss and University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

This year, Dogma played in High Tide, the largest college spring break ultimate tournament in the world. High Tide was a four-week tournament that hosted over 200 colleges and ultimate teams from all over the country. Dogma participated in the fourth week of the tournament. Sixteen of the 22 players made the seven-hour drive to Myrtle Beach in South Carolina. The very first day of the tournament, Dogma went undefeated.

"Going undefeated on day one proved to us and to our opponents that we were not here to just play, but to win! That feeling really powered us into the next day," said Carter Rae, sophomore chemistry major.

On day two of the tournament, Samford lost their first game, but after winning two more games, the team qualified for the championship bracket.

"Prepping for bracket play Wednesday night was very much two-

sided," said senior business major Barrett Merrill. "On one side, we're all very competitive, so a lot of us made sure to spend ample amounts of time stretching, discussing positioning adjustments and getting to bed early. On the other side, it was spring break. If we didn't enjoy a couple hours sitting in the hot tub, hanging out on the beach or playing a game of putt putt, we probably would not have been ready to play."

Dogma lost in the championship game by two points on the final day of the tournament.

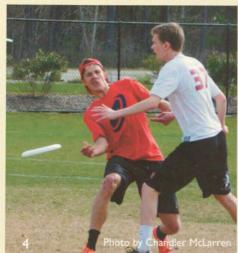
"We ended up just barely losing in the final minutes but felt proud of our performance," said Garrett Boucher, senior computer science major and captain of Dogma. "That high-intensity game allowed us to recognize a few aspects of our game on which we can improve heading into upcoming tournaments."

Dogma left Myrtle Beach slightly sunburnt but extremely pleased with their six-of-eight wins. Upon returning home, the team turned their focus to their upcoming conference and regional tournaments in hopes that they would make it to nationals. Win or lose, Dogma's ultimate end goal was to create friendships that would last beyond college.











1. Dogma poses for a team photo to commemorate the tournament week. 2. Jacob Apelt leaps into the air to catch the Frisbee. 3. Charlie Haney guards a member of the opposing team. 4. Trip Adams passes the Frisbee down the field to a teammate. 5. The team huddles up to encourage one another and discuss strategy.

#### Delta Xi Phi Documentary Screening

n March 29, the women of Delta Xi Phi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., hosted a documentary screening of the film *What Happened, Miss Simone?* The event took place at 6 p.m. in Dwight Beeson Hall and was open to everyone on campus. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness about legendary performer and civil rights activist Nina Simone during Women's History Month.

"This documentary really showcases the struggles that women of color face in the industry," said Natalie Bennie, senior speech communication major and Delta Xi Phi president. "We believed it was important for students to learn more about diversity and be exposed to multiculturalism."

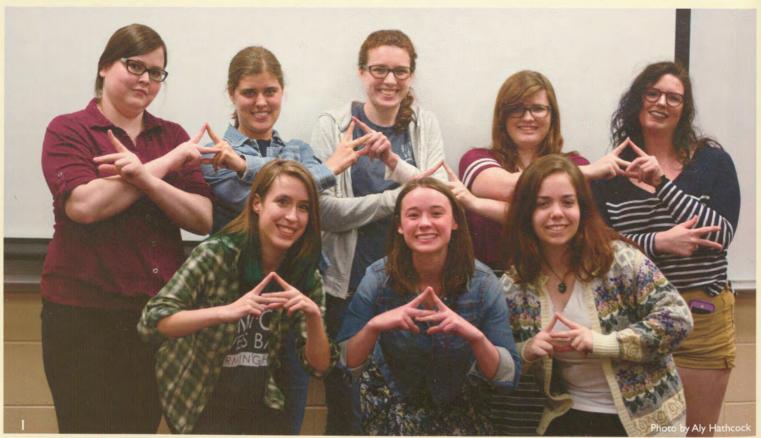
The sorority had an even larger turnout than they had expected, with around 60 people attending the screening. After the film, students participated in a brief discussion on how Simone's faith and life experiences were

represented in her music. Positive reviews and engaging discussion were had by all.

"It's a great documentary that tells an awesome story about Nina Simone," said Ariana Coyne, junior journalism and mass communication major. "We were all very excited about the turnout of the event."

This documentary screening benefited Delta Xi Phi greatly. It raised campus awareness of the multicultural sorority and also allowed the group to focus on one of their chief pillars: multiculturalism.

"I really enjoyed planning this event and showing this documentary," said Emily Thompson, junior journalism and mass communication major. "I feel like as people in the world, we need to learn about what others face, and the documentary does a great job of that."









I. Members of Delta Xi Phi throw their sign at the documentary screening. 2. Sisters take a group photo to commemorate the event. 3. The event features the documentary What Happened Miss Simone? 4. Natalie Bennie and Nicole Poland enjoy time together:

# TEDx Presents On The Edge



Samford's TEDx event, held March 31, was an independently-organized event inspired by TED and themed "On the Edge." It featured six speakers who presented stories from their lives that represented living life on the edge.

Aly Hathcock, a senior journalism and mass communication major, served as the head of TEDxSamfordU for the second year in a row. "This year's lineup was incredible," Hathcock said. "Our speakers literally came from all over the U.S. – from Birmingham and Nashville all the way to California."

The first half featured speakers Billy Ivey, writer and communicator for Big Communications and napkin note enthusiast; Mariana Pimiento, high school blogger and business owner who came to the United States from Colombia as a child; and Dr. Stephen R. Todd, Samford professor and chair of the classics department.

Following a break for dinner, the second half of the TEDx event featured Rachel Baribeau, female sports broadcaster; Laura Bean, senior University Fellow and founder of "Sustaining a Village Every Day"; and Jason Womack, author and business owner.

Students and faculty alike were moved by the words of the speakers. Sophomore psychology major Madeline Ingram assisted in coordinating with the speakers during pre-production and felt personally affected by their stories. "It's encouraging to know that ordinary people can accomplish and experience such amazing things," Ingram said.

The purpose behind TED talks and TEDx events was to promote "ideas worth spreading." This was only the second TEDx event held on campus since the group lost momentum two years ago. However, this year's leadership team came back with a vengeance to put on the best event possible. "We took what we learned last year and used it to bring to campus an event that would showcase ideas worth spreading," Hathcock said.

The group hoped to continue the growth and become a more prominent presence on campus, bringing students together and opening their minds to new ideas.

Chris Kawell, sophomore computer science major, also helped to organize and put on the event. "TEDx at Samford is dedicated to promoting thoughtful discussion and meaningful change within our community and ultimately the world," Kawell said. "I hope that in the coming years, our TEDx events provide the speakers and talks necessary for such change to take place."







1. The TEDx Samford team poses before the event begins. 2. The speakers are excited and ready to give their talks. 3. Laura Bean engages the audience with her talk. 4. Mariana Pimiento confidently speaks about her experience as a Colombian refugee.

ARTICLE BY HALLIE KING

## Gamma Sigma Sigma Recruitment Week





Whith the motto "unity in service," the Samford chapter of Gamma Sigma Sigma lived up to its guiding words over the course of the year. Members took time out of their schedules to serve not only the school but the Birmingham community. In past years, Gamma Sigma Sigma has taken part in community projects like Trace for Treats, the Old Howard Bike Ride, Relay for Life, March of Dimes and many more.

The organization, while based on service, was also a place where friendships were built, which happened as Gamma Sigma Sigma continued to grow. Because of this, the members hosted their annual recruitment week. During this week, potential members were joined by current members as they partook in a variety of events and activities.

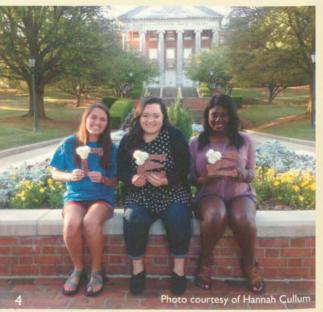
Recruitment week started March 29 with a short information session and

the introduction of present officers. During the meeting, potential members has the opportunity to get to know current members and officers. Afterward, members spent the evening painting and discussing what sisterhood is and what it means.

"Our recruitment events included learning more about the sisterhood of the Delta Sigma Chapter of Gamma Sigma Sigma, involving our members in service activities and showing our new members the passion we have for service," said Hannah Cullum, senior human development and family science major and Gamma Sigma Sigma president.

After a week of events, the final recruitment night served as a culmination of an exciting week. Members created a banner welcoming new members, and everyone gathered on the quad to celebrate new additions to the group.





I. Torrie Richardson and Rachel Clark show off the poster they created for the final day of Gamma Sigma Sigma recruitment. 2. Janah Tanner and Jenesia Porter enjoy recruitment activities and pose for a photo to commemorate the week. 3. Abigail Hancock, Richardson, Hannah Cullum, Hannah Colehower and Rachel Smith show off mugs they decorated as part of a recruitment week sisterhood activity. 4. Rachel Clark, Cullum and Porter pose with their letters while celebrating new members.

ARTICLE BY NYEEDRA DAVIS

#### RANSOM

Radical Athlete and Student Oasis Ministry, fondly known as RANSOM on campus, is a student-led ministry that met every Monday night at 7:50 in the Mountain View lobby. Although historically many of the leaders have been student athletes, RANSOM remained open to all students on campus who wanted to worship.

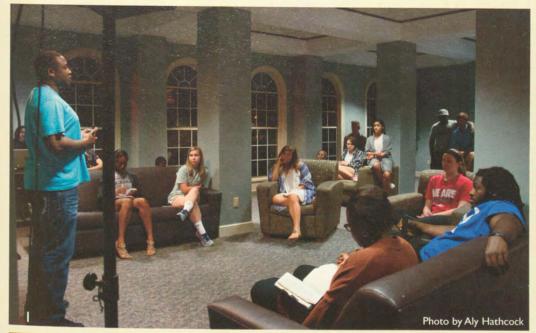
"I love RANSOM because it's a unique, student-led ministry where anyone and everyone are welcomed into a community and family of believers whose focus is on Christ and spreading His kingdom," said Jenny Cockerham, sophomore history major.

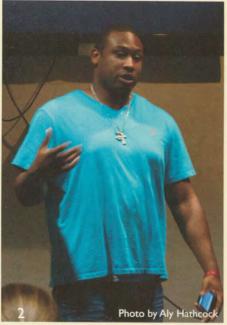
"RANSOM is very diverse and welcoming to everyone, athletes and nonathletes both," said junior management and marketing major Micah Holloway.

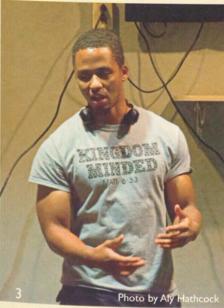
Every RANSOM meeting began with a variety of worship music while people arrived. One of the RANSOM team members then opened the service in prayer and introduced the speaker. Being a student-led ministry, the sermons were easily relatable to all students in attendance, an important part of RANSOM's appeal to students. The service closed with more worship music, oftentimes upbeat and dance-worthy.

"We're a student-led ministry whose focus is bringing together people from all backgrounds and walks of life through the one thing that unites us all: Jesus Christ," said Armando Bonheur, junior sociology major.

The RANSOM leadership team members, as well as the regular RANSOM attendees, were always welcoming new faces. A group of students even stood outside the Mountain View lobby before every meeting to greet people and introduce themselves to newcomers. Many regulars of the service also introduced themselves and welcomed new people to the ministry. RANSOM proved to be a meeting place that attracted genuine, Christ-loving students from all over campus.











1. Students listen intently as Darien Sutton speaks. 2. Sutton delivers a message to students gathered for RANSOM. 3. Josh Washington passionately encourages students and shares about his relationship with Jesus. 4. Armando Bonheur welcomes students to RANSOM. 5. Royus Amos, Kayla Marx, Qiona Peyton and Jessica Sullivan listen closely to the speakers.



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#### Community Of Samford Gamers



The Community of Samford Gamers (CSG) was a club where Samford students were able to get together and share their love of gaming. The group bonded over the fun they had playing various video games at their weekly practices throughout the year.

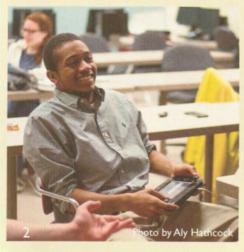
"I first joined CSG this past fall as a bit of an awkward student, but everyone here really took me in and became some of the best friends that I could ask for," said Skye Sisk, freshman pre-pharmacy major.

In order to welcome both casual and competitive players, the club hosted two different types of events, catering to differing levels of interest. For people who just wanted to show up and have a good time, the club hosted monthly parties and encouraged students to bring their own games that they were interested in playing. These events were open to all Samford students, regardless of whether or not they were members of CSG. For those gamers who wanted to test their mettle, CSG also put together competitive eSports teams for games like Super Smash Brothers, League of Legends and CS Go.

The club's competitive teams held weekly practices in order to give the players an opportunity to learn and play together. This also gave them a chance to sharpen their individual skills. With the help of sponsorship from Samford SGA, the club also sent teams to tournaments at other colleges and competed in online eSports leagues.

"To some, CSG may just look like a bunch of nerds who play games all day, but it is a place for people with similar interests to get together and share what they love without having to worry about being judged by others," said CSG president Hamilton Spivy, junior economics and finance double major, "and it is an opportunity to make new friends."

Though CSG may have seemed a bit unorthodox and unlike many other organizations on campus, the group had similar foundational goals to any other organization on campus. CSG built community through a shared interest, an appreciation for playing video games.







1. The Community of Samford Gamers gathers for eSports practice. 2. Students enjoy playing a variety of games during practice. 3. Gamers pay close attention to the strategies used by their teammates. 4. With snacks in hand, the group gathers in a computer lab to hone their skills.

ARTICLE BY NYEEDRA DAVIS

## College Republicans Conference

The day-long College Republican Federation of Alabama (CRFA) conference and convention was held in Montgomery April 2. The conference was open to all College Republican members across the state, and Samford's chapter of the organization chose to attend.

The goal of the conference was threefold: it promoted the education of Republican ideals, provided a networking opportunity for college students with local Republican leaders and served as a forum for making decisions about the future of College Republicans in Alabama.

The conference, however, was not simply a meet-and-greet. The CRFA convention was meant to be similar to the Republican National Convention (RNC). Based on the size of each chapter, like the RNC, each school could send students as delegates to vote on and pass organization bylaws.

In addition to attending the CRFA conference, the College Republicans provided an outlet for students to learn from one another and become involved with politics throughout the year alongside other students who shared similar beliefs. Other events that the Samford chapter participated in included hosting Alabama Supreme Court Justice Tommy Bryan, partnering with SGA for an Absentee Ballot registration drive and providing opportunities for students to volunteer with both local and national political campaigns, including Marco Rubio's.

The valuable opportunities that the chapter provided, the leadership that it inspired and the important conversations that the organization sparked made an impact on both students involved with the organization as well as others on campus.







1. Kaitlin Mullen, Margaret Mason and Tanner Yancy represent the College Republicans at an organizations fair in Ben Brown Plaza to get other students involved with their chapter.

2. Mullen represents the College Republicans at an event at Washington Center. 3. Rachel Sinclair discusses issues as a representative of the organization.

#### Softball Takes On UTC

The softball team took on the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) for a sunny Sunday afternoon game April 3. More than 200 people were in attendance to watch as Callie Brister, senior sports administration major, started the game off with a home run in the bottom of the first inning, batting an additional runner in to earn the Bulldogs two runs.

Though UTC answered those points in the second and fourth innings, scoring one run in the second inning and three in the fourth inning, the Bulldogs were able to keep their opponent from scoring any more after the top of the fourth. In addition, the Bulldogs answered UTC with two runs in

the bottom of the fourth and broke the 4-4 tie with a run in the bottom of the sixth, winning the game 5-4 and contributing to their winning season.

After the exciting win against UTC, the softball team went on to achieve an undefeated season, winning the program's first-ever SoCon championship. The team also played in their first NCAA tournament, making history for Samford softball.

"It was an incredible season," Brister said. "We set out to do something that's never been done, and we did just that. It was a complete team effort, and it's a year we will never forget."







1. The team huddles up for a pep talk before the game. 2. Mollie Hanson pitches to a UTC batter, seeking to strike out her opponent. 3. Abby Sweeney steps up to bat while her teammates cheer her on from the dugout. 4. Teammates congratulate Megan Dowdy on her run. 5. Coaches look on as a player slides into home plate. 6. Shelby Maze steps up to bat and prepares to play her best. 7. The team watches from the dugout and encourages teammates on the field. 8. Callie Brister gets ready for her turn at bat. 9. Lexie Higgins sets up and throws the ball across the field. 10. Maze waits for the pitcher to release the ball and runs to second base. 11. Teammates cheer each other on throughout the game. 12. Kelsey Royalty sprints down the first base line.

ARTICLE BY CLAIRE PER-LEE







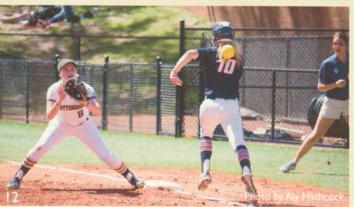




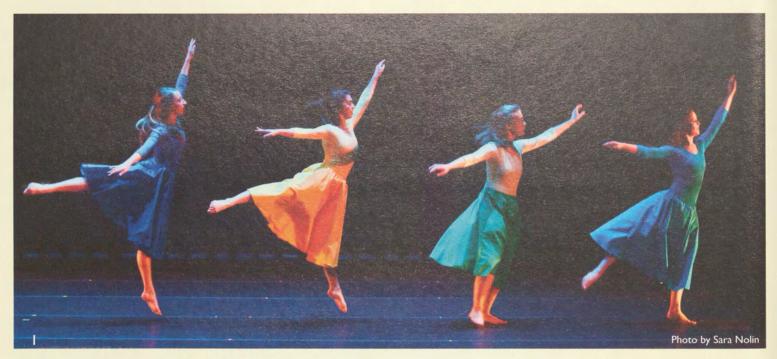








#### Samford Dance Presents Transition



A love of performing and passion for dance brought students together from across campus to form Samford's Dance Company. The company members took technique classes throughout the year and worked with dance faculty, as well as choreographers from Birmingham and New York City, to present Transition: A Dance Concert.

"I chose a theme that could be interpreted many ways and asked our panel of choreographers to let the theme and their work with our students serve as a jumping off point for creativity," said Clayton Winters, director of musical theater and dance. "This year's production also served as a transitional step in our plans for dance at Samford, as it was the first time an all-student company performed the work of professional choreographers who have choreographed both regionally and internationally."

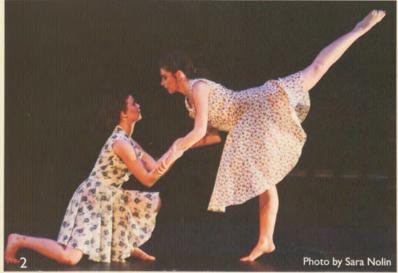
As the department of theater and dance began its transition into a time of growth and change, excitement continued to rise among the students involved.

"The dance concert was a great experience for me as a dancer who is still pursuing dance in college," said freshmen entrepreneurship major and Dance Company member Abbey Hammond. "When I came to Samford, I had hopes to continue dance and still do what I love. It felt as though I never left my studio, dancing with girls who support each other and learning dance styles that I have a passion for. I can't wait to see what our dance department continues to grow into!"

The Samford Dance Company consisted of students with a wide variety of majors who wanted to further their dance education.

"Even though I'm not majoring in theater or dance, I enjoy continuing to share my love of performing through the dance company and dance concert here at Samford," said Sara Copley, sophomore human development and family education major and Dance Company member.

The dance concert was well attended April 1-3, and it highlighted the strong talent of Samford's dance community.

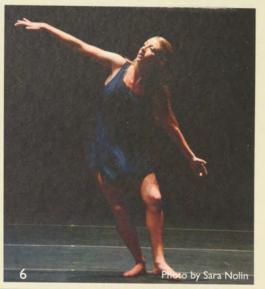




ARTICLE BY EMILY CLARK

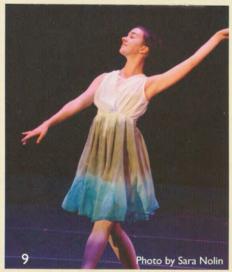




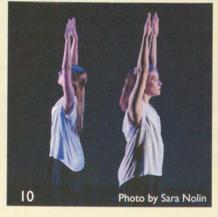








I. Emily Clark, Sara Copley, Kendra Wiley and Elizabeth McGuire leap across the stage. 2. McGuire and Hannah Muse dance hand-in-hand. 3. Ladies join in a circle to dance. 4. Copley, Julia Wilson and Riley Ford perform a lift. 5. Copley joyfully leaps across the stage. 6. Clark prepares for a twirl midstage. 7. Participating dancers perform an elegant pointed-toe leg lift. 8. The dancers move together in fluid motion. 9. Wilson dances every step of her routine with poise. 10. Clark and Wiley lift their hands into a peaceful pose. 11. Clark and Abbey Hammond reach toward one another.



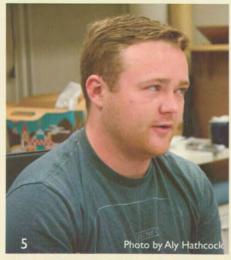


















#### Student Government Elections

Samford students and faculty gathered in Ben Brown April 3 to show their support for election day. The Student Government Association (SGA) was there to encourage students to vote during the election. Members were also on hand to discuss the importance of voting and to give out a few goodies. The turnout and excitement for the election celebration was palpable with #ivotedsu trending.

"Because 2016 is the year of a presidential election, I thought this semester would be a great time to encourage students to reflect on why voting is important," said junior journalism and mass communication major and SGA secretary Rachel Sinclair. "My goal is for students to recognize voting as an incredible opportunity to make their voices heard that should not be taken lightly."

The SGA was split into five different branches of government. All of the branches played a distinct role in the smooth running of the SGA and students like. Two of those pieces of the puzzle were the Student Executive Board (SEB), and the Multicultural Cultural Affairs Committee (MAC). These entities worked together to bridge the gap between students and the university.

Though all members of SGA were focused on the election, it did not stop business as usual. Both the SEB and the MAC helped lead meetings that focused on a range of issues. The SEB's goal during election week was passing a new bill, while the MAC's main focus was putting on the Multicultural Fair.

Margaret Mason, a junior English major and vice president of College Republicans, served on the panel in order to convey the idea that students should not only be concerned with those in their own party but with every American.

"I hope people become more aware of the meetings and the change that happens during them," said Mason. "Additionally, Samford students should feel free to reach out to different parts of the student government and go out in the community. As Samford students, we can make a difference here, but we have to be willing to sacrifice our time for that improvement."

Likewise, Marley Davis, a junior political science major and vice president of Samford Democrats, hoped students would exercise their right on campus to vote during the election.

"If students are not voting, they should reconsider and examine what is keeping them from the polls," said Davis. "Voting is one way for students to become politically engaged and aware of current events happening on campus."

The various branches and entities associated with SGA played a very important role on campus. By hosting events and meetings, the students and faculty advisors that served on SGA truly made Samford a better place.



1. Catherine Guardabassi and Fernanda Herrera-Vera offer donuts to students who vote in the SGA elections. 2. Rachel Sinclair speaks up at an SEB meeting. 3. Laura Breedlove advises students on issues up for discussion. 4. Juliette Stanley states her opinion while fellow SEB members listen closely. 5. Garrett Greer represents senate at the SEB meeting. 6. Sarah Korta and Margie Terp encourage students to vote as they pass through Ben Brown. 7. Laura Ann Prickett leads a meeting with grace. 8. Guardabassi smiles, excited about events in the works for the end of the year; 9. Laura Ann Prickett shows her support at the SGA voting table.





















1. Health Sciences students practice triaging and assist the wounded. 2. Stephen Mardis talks with a patient to diagnose her injuries. 3. Nursing students and athletic training students work together to carry a patient out to the helicopter. 4. Mary Beth Carlisle treats a patient after the earthquake. 5. Rachel Land and Sarah Spiceland work together to help a patient. 6. Maddie Power carefully assess a patient's situation. 7. Katie Nelson helps a patient in the aftermath of the disaster. 8. Students from all departments of the College of Health Sciences work as a team to take care of injured patients. 9. Power works with Mary Raine Stone and fellow nurses to best treat a critical patient. 10. Katie Kosan and Taylor Beek deliver a baby. 11. Students assist as a patient is airlifted from the scene. 12. Both nursing students and athletic training students offer assistance. 13. Karen McCall helps a frantic patient. 14. Ellen Williams checks on a patient.

#### Health Sciences Disaster Simulation



n April 5, students in the College of Health Sciences got a taste of what it would be like to care for victims of a 6.5 magnitude earthquake. This year's disaster drill included 400 participants from every school in the college and allowed them to practice what their role would be if they had been involved in the crisis situation.

"The purpose of the drill was to have as realistic a response as possible, as students from all schools in the College of Health Sciences worked together to provide care in collaboration with our community as they actually would during a real disaster," said Dr. Cindy Berry, associate professor of nursing.

Another focus of this experience was for students to understand what it would be like to interact with members of other healthcare professions. The drill allowed students to understand not only what their own role would be in a situation such as this one but also how their discipline complements other healthcare disciplines.

"As a nursing student, it's so easy for my focus to be on purely the medical assessment and treatment of the disaster victims who were coming in, but by working with pharmacists, speech and communications students, public health and social workers, I saw the greater patient outcomes that come with a collaborative, team-centered approach," said senior nursing major Chrissy Hessing.

Each student, whether portraying a victim of the disaster or a healthcare professional, took a valuable lesson away from the experience. Many gained greater empathy for trauma victims or insight into how they could improve as a healthcare professional, and every student experienced something unlike anything they had done before.

"One thing in particular that I will take away is the experience dealing with a high-stress crisis situation," said Kameron Kelly, fourth year pharmacy student. "All of the education and training that we acquire enables us to perform and trust what we know to provide exceptional care effectively and efficiently."

Participants were surprised by how real a simulation such as this one felt, which is what made being a part of the experience an opportunity so unique to Samford.







ARTICLE BY SARAH GROVE

## Alpha Phi Alpha Step Show



Samford students gathered in Seibert Gym April 7 as the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha hosted the 4th annual Unity Step Show benefitting their philanthropy, the March of Dimes.

The Unity Step Show garnered even more popularity and attention than past years, bringing in more participants and spectators this year than ever before.

"March of Dimes was designed to assist parents and infants in providing the necessary treatment to help with birth defects, premature births and other complications with pregnancy," said senior exercise science major and chairman of membership intake for Alpha Phi Alpha Jhamall Wright. "This year we were able to raise over \$800 to benefit our philanthropy."

Each of the five National Panhellenic sororities choreographed and performed a unique show in front of an audience of students and a panel of judges.

Courtland Thomas, marketing manager for Samford Dining, was one of the judges on the panel. "My favorite part of the show was the audience's reactions," said Thomas. "The tradition of stepping truly captivates and allows

viewers to feel the emotion of the stepper. The audience's reactions were priceless."

In addition to enjoying the show and its atmosphere, Thomas took the judging very seriously. "I was looking for creativity, unity and precision," said Thomas. "Stepping is truly a history-making art, and I was looking for a team who exemplified an understanding of that."

At the end of the day, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi took home the trophy.

"I was so proud of our hard work," said Gretchen Powell, sophomore psychology major and Alpha Delta Pi choreographer. "I think something we really pride ourselves on is our attention to detail, togetherness and technique."

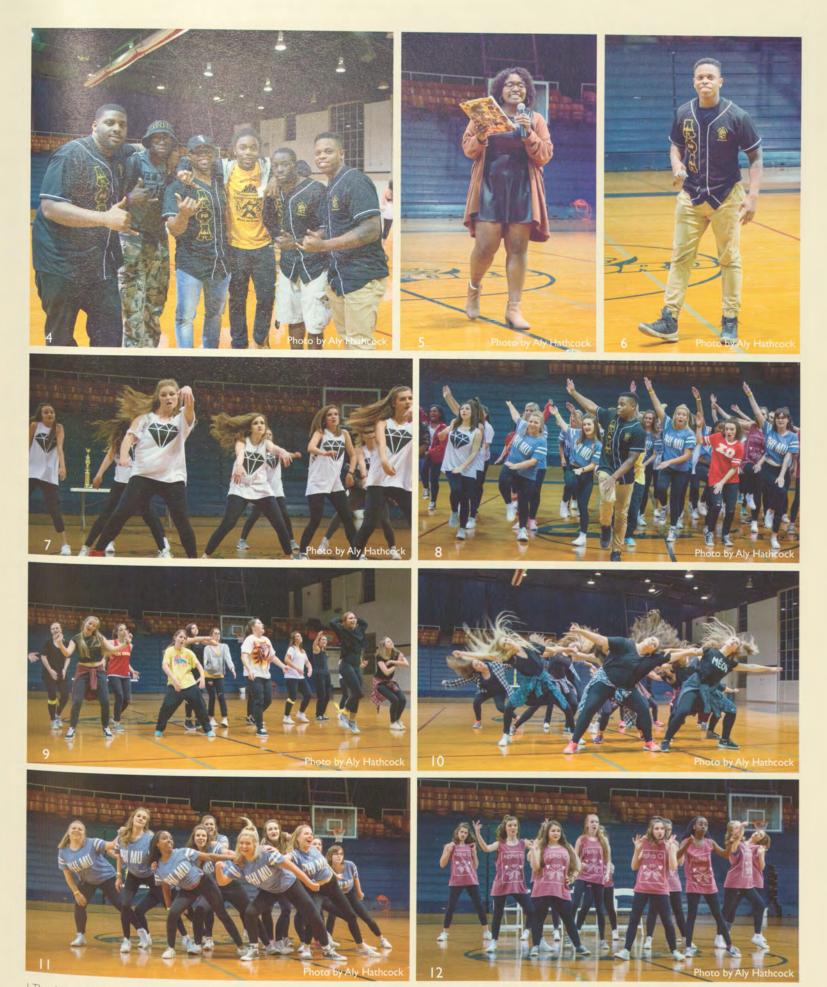
The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha could not have been more pleased with the outcome of their philanthropy event and looked forward to seeing future growth of the event.

"We appreciate all of our participants and students that came out to supports our event, and we hope to keep making it an impactful event for the Samford community," said Wright.





ARTICLE BY VICTORIA SHELTON



I.The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi pose with the brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha after winning first place in the Unity Step Show. 2. All participants in the step show join Alpha Phi Alpha in a step routine. 3. Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha prepare to crown the winner of the step show. 4. Brothers smile after a successful event raising money for their philanthropy, March of Dimes. 5. Erin Carley announces the next step group. 6. Jhamall Wright welcomes students to the step show. 7. Members of Alpha Delta Pi perform their winning routine for the crowd. 8. Everyone follows Wright's lead as they perform together to wrap up the show. 9. Sisters of Chi Omega get ready to strike a pose at the end of their performance. 10. Zeta Tau Alpha steppers follow the lead of their choreographer Ashten Legg. 11. Phi Mu moves in sync and enjoys every minute of performing. 12. Sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi bring their best moves to the floor.



I. Henry Moore steps up and plays well in a singles match. 2. Teammates congratulate Moore on his victory. 3. Fares Kilani and Justin Ghavami encourage one another during their doubles match. 4. Jake Faundez returns the ball to his opponent. 5. Eduardo Lourido Sanchez celebrates after winning a point in the match. 6. Kilani catches his breath and prepares to serve. 7. Leonard Gerch and Trey Carter work together to dominate their doubles match. 8. Teammates rush onto the court and celebrate with Moore. 9. Ghavami plays aggressively to defeat his opponent. 10. Faundez and Lourido Sanchez high five as the prepare for the next serve. 11. Carter anticipates his opponents and prepares to return the ball. 12. Teammates watch matches from the sidelines and support each other.

#### Men's Tennis Defeats Mercer



The men's tennis team competed against Mercer University with high energy and determination for their senior day. This was the team's last home match of the season, when four seniors, Trey Carter, Leonard Gerch, Fares Kilani and Henry Moore, were honored for their accomplishments both academically and athletically.

"Each of them had a major impact in the score line of the match and, above all, a major impact in our program and our university during their tenure at Samford," said Rahim Esmail, men's tennis head coach.

Henry Moore stepped up and played well in a singles match after the scheduled player was injured. The first match outcome was 3-6, but Moore made a comeback in the last two matches with scores of 6-4 and 7-5 and won the set.

"Having two minutes to prepare myself for my last home match after Eduardo couldn't play, then clinching the deciding match is what every athlete dreams of," said Moore, senior journalism and mass communication major. "Our team is on a roll right now, and it's due to the fact that we treat every match as though it's our last, and we respect whoever our opponent is on the given day. Mercer beat us last year, so we were determined that we would not let that happen again in our house."

"The match against Mercer was really important for all the lads," said Jake Faundez, sophomore economics major. "Not only was it senior day, but it was also a crucial conference match. All the boys went in with 100% as usual, but one effort that was particularly commendable was from that of our seniors, like Henry Moore. Henry trained hard all season to be ready for that opportunity, and it was really special to see him lead the team to success on his senior day."

Faundex also dominated the court and won two consecutive singles matches to come out with a win on his set. In the doubles matches, Trey Carter and Leonard Gerch, ranked number one, also won their match. Justin Ghavmi and Fares Kilani were successful in their doubles match as well.

"If you have seen our team play, you know very well that they play with a lot of energy, enthusiasm, team unity and a with tremendous amount of pride in our program and our product," Esmail said. "Mercer was one of the few teams this season that were able to match our energy level, and this made for a very competitive match."

The win against Mercer was particularly special because it was the team's sixth straight win of the season. The win improved the team's record to 11-4 overall and 5-1 in the Southern Conference play.







13. The team smiles for a group photo to commemorate a successful senior day. They could not cointain their excitement after a hard earned victory over Mercer. 14. Faundez returns the ball by lobbing it across the court. 15. Moore pumps his fist after winning a point. 16. Carter and Gerch strategize before the next serve.

ARTICLE BY PAIGE SHELBY

#### Preministerial Scholars Retreat

For one weekend, April 8-9, the Samford Preministerial Scholars (premins) paused their busy schedules and came together to eat, fellowship, breathe and learn about what their peers were doing in the Samford and Birmingham communities. As students finished up classes and work on Friday, they trickled into the lake house owned by one of religion professor Dr. James Barnette's congregation members. Dr. Barnette said it was one of his favorite events of the year, as it provided a good excuse to gather students from all corners of campus.

Throughout the semester, these students spent time together in discussion of ministry or scholarship; the opportunity to gather casually without the pressure of school or church was a rare and welcomed time.

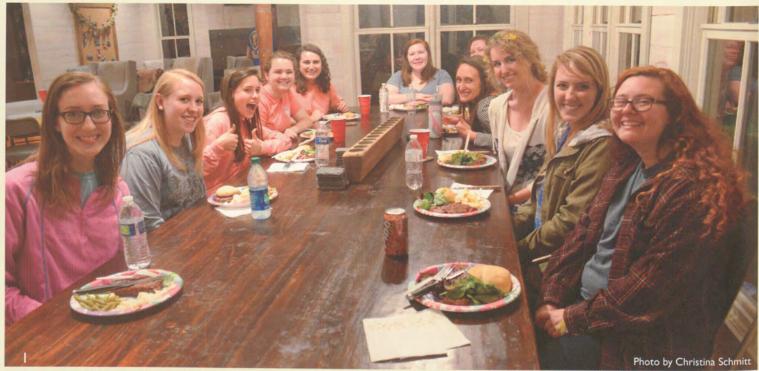
"My favorite thing about the retreat is that it gives us time to not just talk to the premins in our same year but to the older premins, too," said freshman religion major Christopher Wright.

The retreat provided a space for mentorship and relationship building between older and younger premins, as their paths did not always cross in the classroom or on campus throughout the year. As the evening went on and students shared dinner and time together, students became sentimental when thinking about the upcoming graduation of the seniors. During the spring semester, seniors were recognized by younger students with kind words that reflected how they influenced the program and the lives of other Preministerial Scholars

As was their tradition, the seniors passed down traits and habits to younger classmen. These ranged from passing down who would cook breakfast and make coffee on the last morning of the retreat to passing down the role of "the Papacy," a Preministerial Scholar who exemplified academic standards, compassion and community involvement within the program. Each trait, responsibility or role, no matter how serious or silly, had been passed down through generations of premins.

On Friday night, after much talk and laughter by the bonfire, everyone crawled into bed around 2 a.m. The next morning, those newly delegated with breakfast tasks woke up the house with the smells of coffee, eggs and pancakes. Students gathered by the dock on the lake to enjoy the peace and calm of the final morning together.

As the day wore on, people began to return to campus. The time on the retreat was a time of rest and fellowship, but it was also a reminder that they were not called to stagnant rest. The retreat was a time to become reenergized and encouraged by peers also seeking God's kingdom in order that, upon return to campus, the Preministerial Scholars could go out and continue to serve their communities with renewed fervor.







I. Girls gather around the table for dinner and fellowship. 2. Nicole Poland is ready to dive into dinner as she prepares her plate. 3. Dr. James Barnette cooks steaks for the students on the first night of the retreat. 4. Abby Thomason, Grace Pike, Ashley Mealins and Carissa Crider smile before a game of tetherball. 5. The scholars circle up for snacks and a meeting. 6. Students join Dr. Barnette on the water for some time in the sun. 7. Farrah Karimi excitedly cooks pancakes for her friends.

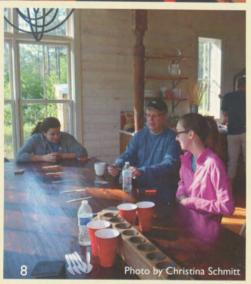
ARTICLE BY CHRISTINA SCHMITT



















8. Poland, Dr. Barnette and Emily Jenkins take a break to play a game. 9. Jenkins, Karimi, Julia Holland and Hannah Holland pose for a sassy picture on the couch. 10. Sam Fink and Joseph Sellers chat around the fire pit. 11. Mealins and Jenkins lounge as they talk to Pike and Crider outside. 12. Mealins, Thomason and Bryan Howard play a slap game with a group around the table. 13. Howard, John Kegley and Walker Edmondson play spikeball during their free time. 14. Logan Greenhaw speaks to the group as they give their senior gifts.









I. A group poses in Ben Brown Plaza with the Full Moon food truck, ready to support Delta Sigma Theta. 2. Girls show off the progress they have made on their artwork. 3. Ken Gammada and Paige Moore enjoy ice cream from Big Spoon in honor of Delta Week. 4. Sisters represent their organization in Ben Brown and cool off with Doodles to kick off Delta Week. 5. Students chat while working on their bulldog paintings. 6. Erica Smith encourages students who are giving blood for the Delta Week blood drive. 7. Delta Sigma Theta partners with Delta Xi Phi for an afternoon of service. 8. Students hold up their final products at the Painting with a Twist event. 9. Kayla Chambers concentrates on her work at the Delta Week study hall. 10. Students enjoy each other's company while studying.











### Delta Sigma Theta Week



April 11-17 was designated as "Delta Week" for the Sigma Eta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The theme for the week was "Delta Airlines," as each day had a different flight number and various corresponding events.

On Monday, Delta Sigma Theta kicked off the week with Flight 411. Food trucks from Doodles, Full Moon BBQ and Big Spoon Creamery parked in Ben Brown from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. for students to grab a treat.

"We had a good turn out for the food truck event," said Ca'Dric Moulton, senior education major. "We wanted to offer food that most everyone enjoys. Who would want to miss out on a food event?"

For Flight 412, Delta Sigma Theta held a study hall in the Davis Library from 6 to 8 p.m. Refreshments were provided "mid-flight" for the nearly 30 people from Samford and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) that attended.

Flight 413 featured "Painting with Twist," an event held in the Wash Courtyard, or the art loft, on Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

"We had a good turnout from Samford people as well as UAB students," said Erica Smith, senior health sciences major. "We had Samford student Grace Guffin be the leader in painting bulldogs; however, everyone had the

choice of painting whatever they wanted to paint."

Thursday, Flight 414, was Moe's Spirit Night, "Dinner with the Divas." The spirit night took place at the Wildwood location of Moe's and was held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On Friday, Flight 415, the sorority held a blood drive, and about 15 people donated blood. Flight 416 provided an opportunity for the sisters of Delta Sigma Theta to partner with Delta Xi Phi for Samford Gives Back.

"We were so excited to partner with another sorority on campus for Samford Gives Back," said Courtney Jenkins, junior health sciences major. "It is great to see different groups all over campus joining together for a good cause."

On the final day of Delta Week, Sunday's Flight 417, everyone was invited to attend "Church with the Divas" at 6th Avenue Baptist Church.

"As a whole, I feel that Delta Week was a success," said Smith. "We had great participation and support from many groups on campus as well as from those off campus. My favorite event was the 'Painting with a Twist' event. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves, and that's a successful event as far as I'm concerned."





## Jazz Band Concert

The jazz band performed their second concert of the year Tuesday, April 12, in Brock Recital Hall. The group performed one on-campus show per semester, as well as outside performances around Birmingham.

Students from all over campus participated in Samford jazz. Torrie Richardson, a senior visual arts major, loved the diversity of the jazz band.

"There are many people in the ensemble that I would have never met if it wasn't for a common love of jazz music," Richardson said.

Because of the talent and variety that the students brought to the group, the spring concert featured a medley of different types of jazz music and songs of varying difficulties and melodies. Freshman religion major Jonathan Punt considered the concert to be the jazz band's highlight of the year.

"We played a number of really difficult, cool-sounding charts that spanned from classics such as 'Chattanooga Choo-Choo' to more progressive melodies like 'Eeyore," Punt said. "Having such an experienced group of players enabled us to play whatever charts sounded the best to us, regardless of technical difficulty."

The band's director, Dr. Grant Dalton, intentionally chose different styles of music rather than having an overarching theme for each performance.

"I actually try to keep the music as diverse as I can, so we play everything from traditional big band swing to funk," Dalton said.

He allowed students to arrange music when desired, and one arrangement even caught the attention of the song's original musicians. Senior music major and jazz band drummer Michael Southerland created an arrangement of the song "Sun Spat" by the band EMEFE, and, after having the opportunity to work on it with the band, EMEFE allowed the band to join them in their Birmingham concert.

The jazz band encouraged any interested students to audition. "We have students that start out with varying levels of talent and jazz experience, but just being immersed in the ensemble and in jazz music helps you to get a better grasp of it and grow into it," Richardson said.







ARTICLE BY HALLIE KING











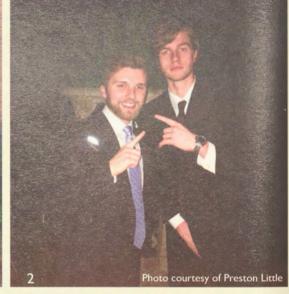






1. Jazz band opens their spring concert for the audience gathered in Brock Recital Hall. 2. Brianna Ware focuses on her music, 3. Dr. Grant Dalton directs the band during their performance. 4. Torrie Richardson smiles between songs as she holds her bassoon. 5. Bradley Harrington, Alina Pittman, Elizabeth Simmons and Ashley Crowe play together in perfect harmony. 6. Wisdom Bibbs plays his trumpet along with the jazz tune. 7. With vocals accompanying the jazz band, the audience experiences a wonderful musical ensemble. 8. Dr. Dalton introduces the next song. 9. Harrington and Ross Rochford play their string instruments, while Michael Southerland maintains the beat on the drums. 10. The brass section reads their music as they perform the piece. 11. Doug Barr adds the characteristic swing of jazz music with his trombone.

















## Sigma Nu Formal

The Iota chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity at Samford University, the longest-standing chapter in the nation, held their spring formal at Park Crest Event Facility on April 9. Approximately 140 people were in attendance.

"It was a great and classy event with all my fraternity brothers," said Matt Carrick, senior accounting major. "Formal is always one of my favorite events of the year, and this year was definitely no different."

The formal featured live music and "brotherly love." The event started at 8 p.m., and the fraternity members and their dates were back on campus by midnight.

"We all had a great time at formal this year," said Tate Rogers, senior finance major. "The venue was great, the music was great and everyone was in good spirits. You can't beat time with your brothers."

All in attendance enjoyed their time at formal, which benefitted the Sigma Nu chapter by bringing them closer together and uniting them as a brotherhood.

"I think the most important thing we took away from this event was that we may not have the most brothers on campus, but we have the closest ones," said Sammi Alsaleh, junior finance major. "We put the 'hood' in brotherhood."



I. Brothers take a group photo with their dates before heading off to the function. 2. Tyler Pierce and Caleb Gridley pose between dances. 3. Lane Hanberry, Megan McCarley and Ryan Owen prepare for a fun evening planned by Hanberry, Sigma Nu's social chair. 4. Brothers snap a picture donning their formal attire. 5. A group pauses on the dance floor for an action shot. 6. Clarke Dupree and Gridley enjoy time together at the party. 7. Wen Burnette, Ricky Fowler and Ben Carrick show off their best formal looks while taking pictures with their group. 8. Students line up on the steps of Hodges Chapel, a favorite spot for taking pictures before events. 9. Sigma Nu seniors smile before attending their last function.

#### Catholic Students Association Retreat



The Catholic Students Association (CSA) was comprised of leaders and students open to deep discussions and advised by their sponsor and psychology professor, Dr. Chuck Stokes, and his wife Betsy. Members of CSA came together on a weekly basis to support each other and pray for unity in the church throughout the year.

"As a campus minister, I love how the Catholic students are thriving in a Baptist college," said Vidi Acosta, minister at St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Chapel. "It's truly beautiful and such a blessing to work with them."

In addition to normal Thursday Mass led by local priest Father Vu, Thursday Bible studies and Mass held on the first Monday of each month in Reid Chapel, CSA participated in a Catholic students retreat, Alabama Awakening 3, which was a life-changing experience for many CSA students who attended. Catholic students from universities across Alabama came together April 15-17 to listen to God and be directed by Him in spiritual formation. Students were motivated and moved by encouraging speakers, new relationships and, most importantly, time spent with God in Mass. Students were inspired as they saw

how God continued to move in the Catholic community.

"Having a community like CSA has been great so far in my two years here," said Maggie McGahren, sophomore education major. "I love how we all get to share the same faith and explore that faith together. Being in college is hard because a lot of people question their faith, but having a group like CSA, where you have people that are your friends and mentors to help you grow and learn more about Catholicism, has been one of the best things."

Both on the retreat and on campus, CSA allowed students to build strong relationships and develop a tight-knit group that supported one another through sorrowful and joyful seasons.

"CSA means the world to me," said sophomore pre-veterinary major Madeline Fric. "The group automatically welcomed me with open arms and became my home-away-from-home. I enjoy being able to celebrate Mass together with everyone at least once a week. I'm so thankful to be a part of such an amazing group of people. I couldn't imagine my Samford experience without CSA."





ARTICLE BY KRISTIN AEBLI



















I. Students strike a pose for a silly group photo. 2. Matt Kendall, Thomas Fay, John Bailey and Palmer Mordecai participate in a team building activity. 3. Students reflect together in sessions on the retreat. 4. Marisa Nunez, Dylan Jedlovec and Maggie McGahren wave while heading to their next activity. 5. John Michael Schmidt smiles for a photo with Vidi Acosta. 6. Jeb Blackwood and McGahren embrace as part of an exercise during their meeting. 7. Students gather in groups to discuss faith and reflect on topics brought up on the retreat. 8. Students pose around their group's mascot, the shark. 9. Students enjoy the sunshine while chatting around a picnic table. 10. Kaleb Libby dips Kristin Aebli, as they dance in their free time. 11. Blackwood and Raul Eduardo Alonso enjoy spending time together. 12. Students goof off for a team picture.

















# Women's Tennis Versus Lipscomb

Women's tennis hosted Lipscomb University for a non-conference match April 14, where the team achieved a 5-2 victory over its opponent. Seniors Carita Moolman and Jessica Northcutt won their doubles match, as did sophomore Savannah Wood and freshman Georgie Jupp. With these victories, the team gained the doubles point, two matches to one.

Northcutt, Moolman, Wood, Jupp, Ellie Gerlach and Annika Hepp competed in individual matches, winning the team four of the six singles matches and securing the team's overall victory.

After defeating Lipscomb, the women's tennis team improved to a 10-10 record for the season.

The team worked together over the course of the season toward a chance at the SoCon title. As they wrapped up the season with a final regular-season

match against Chattanooga, the team prepared for the SoCon tournament. The team won against Wofford and Furman but lost to East Tennessee State in their final match of the tournament.

Seniors Northcutt and Moolman played a strong final season and were recognized for their hard work and leadership as the season came to a close. Northcutt was named second team All-SoCon for singles, and Moolman and Northcutt were named second All-SoCon in doubles.

"Carita and Jessica came in here as freshmen and worked extremely hard, and they've done so for four years," said head coach David Vest. "That hard work has rewarded us with having a chance on the last day of the tournament the last three years. It was three good years, but two great seniors."



I.Annika Hepp and Ellie Gerlach chat before the match. 2. Carita Moolman waits for her competitor. 3. Jessica Northcutt leaps to hit the ball. 4. Georgie Jupp excitedly plays the game. 5. Savannah Wood watches as her ball flies across the court. 6. Hepp reaches to return the ball. 7. Wood and Jupp high-five after a match. 8. Yasmeen Edaba watches and cheers for Northcutt during the match. 9. Northcutt and Moolman concentrate and work as a team to defeat their opponents. 10. Northcutt anxiously awaits the ball's return to her side of the court. 11. Northcutt watches intently as she prepares to hit the ball. 12. Jupp remains in the zone as she faces her competitor.

Photo by Aly Hathcock



























I. Katie Hill helps plant a garden as an act of service. 2. Courtney Allen, Samford Gives Back organizer, welcomes students and gives instructions for the day. 3. Benon Mugisha and Claire Gaxiola share a hug as they clean the grounds of the Lakeshore Foundation. 4. DiversABILITY president Meg Kellenberger poses with her team at Raleigh Avenue Baptist Church, ready to serve Rooftop Friends disability ministry. 5. Kevin Aparicio and fellow members of the Latino Students Organization help pack up office space. 6. Phi Mu sisters volunteer at Grace House Ministries. 7. Elizabeth Van Dyke and members of the Samford Gives Back team help take care of a community garden. 8. Dulce Rivera carries potted plants into the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama's (HICA) new offices.

#### Samford Gives Back



Samford Gives Back was sponsored by the Frances Marlin Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership April 16, with Allison Nanni, director of community engagement, playing a large role in facilitating the event.

"Samford Gives Back allows the Samford community to tangibly live out our mission of service to others," said senior journalism and mass communication major Allison Kanne. "It shows the Birmingham community that we care."

Samford Gives Back is one of campus' most beloved and cherished traditions. Students gathered early in the morning at the football stadium, as Dr. Westmoreland shared his thoughts on service and prayed over the work that was about to take place. After students were given their Samford Gives Back t-shirts and a quick breakfast, each group headed off to their designated site to begin their day of service.

Samford sent out groups of students and alumni to work at 38 different sites, as there was a 74% increase in participation this year. Some groups

stayed in the local Birmingham area, while others drove as far as Greensboro, Alabama.

"It was great to hangout with my fellow Beta Alpha Psi members and help people take plants to their car and direct traffic," said junior accounting major Nick McDougal. "It was a very busy event with a lot of people, so it was good to be there and help keep things in order."

Students, faculty and staff placed a big emphasis on working to make a difference in the Birmingham community. Samford Gives Back gave students and alumni the ability to see first hand the impact that serving others had on the community.

"Samford Gives Back is a unique opportunity because you are able to serve right alongside your peers," said junior marketing management major Lauren Cooksey. "Normally when I serve, I am off doing my own thing without my Samford friends, so it is fun to come together and make a difference as a Samford community."





9. Girls stuff goodie bags that will be distributed at a retreat hosted by Rooftop Friends disability ministry for families affected by disability. 10. Students work in the garden at Girls Incorporated of Central Alabama where girls learn to grow vegetables and cook. 11. Members of DiversABILITY fill goodie bags with candy and treats. 12. Samford Gives Back volunteers proudly pose in their matching t-shirts after a morning of hard work at HICA. 13. A group of volunteers pose at their work site. 14. Students, excited for a day of service, hold up their new Samford Gives Back t-shirts. 15. Girls help plant an outdoor garden. 16. Students fill the bleachers as they prepare to volunteer around the community.

#### Intramural Championships

Intramurals were a large part of student life at Samford. Students took part in a variety of different sports; in particular, intramural volleyball and intramural basketball championship games proved particularly exciting.

This year in particular, there were several outstanding teams in the volleyball division. Final championship games consisted of the Dream Team versus Team Amelia, Pi Kappa Phi versus Mucca Mad Boyz and the Itsy Bitsy Spikers versus Alpha Delta Pi.

Playing volleyball gave students a mental break from studying, and it also gave them a chance to work off their everyday stress by doing physical activity while having fun with friends.

"Playing anything with Pi Kapp is always a blast, but volleyball specifically has been amazing," said junior journalism and mass communication major Carson Kennedy. "We have a very solid group of guys that make it fun!"

Some teams had been established for years, and their practice habits and rituals were passed down from previous teams. Other teams, however, were new, but both new and old teams were represented in the championship games.

The Co-Ed Rec Dream Team had gone undefeated for three years. "Somewhere along the way, we developed a tradition where we have to get a pancake (when the ball almost hits the ground but your hand gets under it before it hits) every match," said junior accounting major and team captain Katie Scott when asked how they managed to be so consistent.

Basketball was also a popular intramural sport. Fifty-seven teams competed for a chance to play in the championship games and for an

opportunity to win a coveted championship t-shirt.

There were five championship divison games: CoRec, Women's A-team, Women's B-team, Men's A-team and Men's B-team. Team RxRated battled against We Shoot, Jesus Scores in the CoRec championship game. The Women's A-team championship game was played by Blue Crew and the Zeta Tau Alpha A-team. The Zeta Tau Alpha B-team and the AOBallers played for the Women's B-team championship. Nothing but Noah and Love Thy Homie played for the Men's B-team championship, and Rebels fought for the Men's A-team championship against Pi Kappa Phi.

Intramurals left a lasting impression on students, teaching everyone important team-building skills, sportsmanship and how to have fun in a competitive atmosphere.

"We usually practice about three times a week, which really just consists of us playing three-on-three with each other," said Laura Berkhouse, sophomore nutrition and dietetics and major and captain of Blue Crew. "Since we are all such close friends off the court, and since we've all had basketball experience, it is easy for us to play as a team. Our teamwork is definitely what got us to the championship game."

Each winning team for both basketball and volleyball was featured on campus recreation's social media accounts and received championship t-shirts to wear proudly around campus.

"Each year it is great to see our students get involved and to see how competitive they can get to win the coveted championship t-shirt," said Nick Madsen, director of campus recreation.



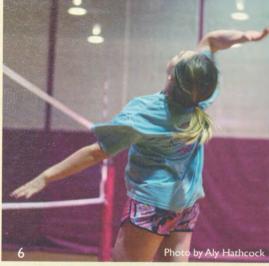


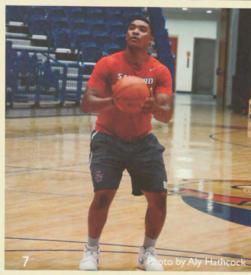
1. Taylor Hartman, Tayler McPherson, Elizabeth Bragg, Emily McNatt and Sydney Murphey proudly hold up their championship t-shirts. 2. Members of the winning intramural basketball team put on their championship t-shirts for a photo. 3. Volleyball players return the ball to score against the opposing team. 4. A player dribbles the ball to keep it away from his co-ed basketball competitors. 5. Charlie Scott prepares to shoot. 6. Hartman jumps up to spike the volleyball. 7. Ahmad Gooden takes a shot during basketball finals. 8. Girls return a volley. 9. A player attempts to make a basket while her opponent tries to block the shot. 10. LC McNiel breaks through the defense. 11. Both basketball teams watch in anticipation to see if the lay up is good. 12. McPherson jumps to return the ball. 13. A teammate shoots a three-pointer:











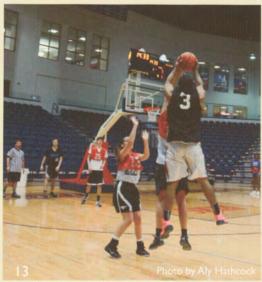












#### Restoring Eden Celebrates Earth Week

In honor of Earth Week, Samford student organization Restoring Eden, a Christian-based group that advocates for environmental stewardship, hosted a flurry of activities to help students actively participate in the protection of the planet.

The events kicked off April 18 and ran through Earth Day, April 22.

The beginning of the week focused on educating Samford students about their personal impact on the environment. Restoring Eden hosted an informational table in Ben Brown Plaza to inform students about issues plaguing the environment and efforts being made to remedy them.

"We wanted to make people aware that their actions have consequences to the world around them," sophomore environmental science major Hope Reamer said.

As Earth Week came to a close, Restoring Eden joined forces with the geography department to host a cleanup event. Restoring Eden led Samford students in picking up trash, litter and other non-biodegradable matter that was harmful to the environment. Specifically, the organization partnered with Shades Creek, cleaning up just across the street from Samford.

Reamer said she hopes that the cleanup will become a tradition and will over time create a lasting impact.

"I hope that they learned something that they can do in their everyday lives to improve the environment," Reamer said.











I. Students pose with the Shades Creek sign after a successful morning of cleaning up. 2. Students enjoy spending time together and working as a team to make a difference. 3. Girls wade in the creek to collect garbage in the water. 4. Team members pose next to the giant pile of trash they've collected. 5. Students educate their peers about the importance of taking care of the planet in honor of Earth Week.

### Global Connections Fair







n April 18, Samford's international students set up tents to represent five different regions of the world (South America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Europe) that they call their homes. The International Club (I-Club) and the English Language Learner's Institute (ELLI) co-sponsored the first-ever Global Connections Fair, together with faculty and students representing at least six other student organizations and at least four faculty departments, not to mention community involvement from churches and local businesses.

The groups worked together to educate Samford students on the different cultures and countries that the international students represented. Samford's international students spent hours planning and cooking so that they could share their culture through food, history, music and games.

Students flooded into Ben Brown Plaza, purchasing \$5 wristbands that allowed them access to one plate of food from each tent, briefly immersing them in different cultural conversations about the origins of the food and its history.

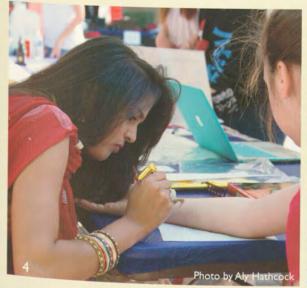
"After the International Student Leadership Council (ISLC) dissolved last spring, I-Club became the only student organization to represent the interests of international students on campus," said Claire Gaxiola, president

of I-Club. "We, the I-Club leadership, realized the importance at that point of growing the I-Club and making it a real force for change within Samford. We recognized that the gap we were seeing between international and domestic students didn't have to stay that way."

Gaxiola said that the I-Club leadership agreed it was time to put on an event that could bridge this gap. "Out of the entire year, I think the Global Connections Fair was the best manifestation of this goal," Gaxiola said. "Global Connections brought people together from across campus and from the community that might not otherwise have come in contact with one another."

Lexi Gilbert, a junior psychology and pre-law major, said that she "loved the Global Connections Fair because it was a beautiful representation of what it looks like to celebrate our differences and learn from new perspectives. I hope this experience encourages students to ask questions and dig further into how culture functions in this world."

"Such an event is merely the beginning of a deeper chapter of intercultural communication and understanding at Samford University," Gaxiola said.







I. An ELLI student represents China at the Global Connections Fair. 2. Claire Gaxiola, I-Club president, participates in the event, representing the Middle East. 3. Benon Mugisha and Eden Harris smile for a photo. 4. Prapti Patel shares her culture by giving a peer a henna tattoo. 5. Students enjoy sharing native foods with those at the fair. 6. Students enjoy time together and sharing their cultures.

ARTICLE BY LIZZIE KOLAKOSKI

#### Air Force ROTC Military Ball



The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) faced both challenges and successes over the course of the year, and through those experiences AFROTC became a close-knit group.

"This group has really become more of a family," said freshman nursing major Emily Outlaw. "Through all the training we do together, it bonds us together, so they're like my family now."

The purpose of AFROTC was to allow men and women to go to school, study and train to be officers and leaders in the Air Force simultaneously.

However, the AFROTC program was not all work and no play. They held a military ball that allowed students to take a break from training and allocations to dance the night away.

Cadet Elizabeth Snyder, senior nutrition and dietetics major, put in countless hours planning the annual event.

"It was great training to plan for an event at this scale," said Snyder, "and it was even more rewarding to see my fellow cadets and their guests enjoy the

night."

On April 23, cadets gathered at the annual military ball dressed in their best blues to celebrate and to wish the seniors goodbye as they moved on to greater things.

"The ball was a lot of fun this year," said junior journalism and mass communication major Carson Kennedy. "Cadet Snyder did an incredible job putting it all together and working hard to make sure everything ran smoothly. It was an emotional night as we said goodbye to all the seniors and our current Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Travis Dixon."

After plenty of dancing, singing, great food and a powerful speaker to commemorate the end of the year, the night proved to be one that would not be forgotten. The ball was nothing short of what the AFROTC group prides themselves on being every single day: united and, as Cadet Steins put it, "simply exemplary."





ARTICLE BY JULIANNA KENDALL



















I. Members of the AFROTC pose for a group photo at the ball. 2. Captain Jake Ringrose and Carson Kennedy salute as Tylan Jones carries a flag. 3. Devin Buenger escorts his wife Lauren at the event. 4. Pete Flemming and Corbin Meredith enter in full uniform. 5. Devon Ahern and Callie McManus smile together as they enjoy the event. 6. AFROTC members join together to form a celebratory circle. 7. Sergeant Nawang Dhondup presents an award to Flemming. 8. Lieutenant Colonel Travis Dixon prepares to present an award. 9. Elizabeth Snyder and Katie Kosan dance together during the ball. 10. Air Force friends happily celebrate their time together. 11. Ben Coleman and Lindsey Derrick share a dance. 12. Attendees dance and sing along to the music.

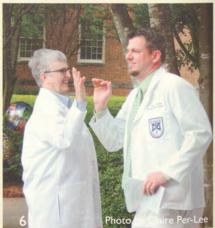












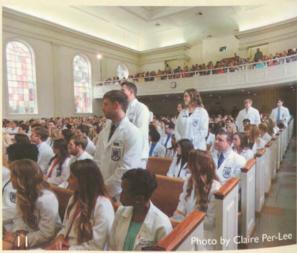






I. The guest speaker addresses students at the ceremony. 2. Dr. Pilar Murphy proudly greets Heather Shiflett with a congratulatory hug after the ceremony. 3. Pharmacy students applaud as their peers are recognized. 4. Michelle Leatherwood is congratulated by her family with flowers and hugs. 5. Dr. Jeffery Kyle is recognized as the Margaret Self Propst Pharmacy Teacher of the Year. 6. Dr. Rhonda Lacey high-fives Jake Campbell on his way out of Reid Chapel. 7. Monica Zachariah laughs with Dr. Lacey as she waits for her name to be called. 8. Katie Farris, Anna Files and Brittney Calma smile after they receive their pins.

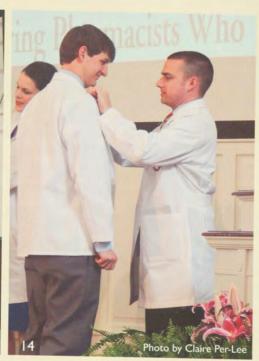




# Pharmacy P3 Pinning Ceremony







The Pinning Ceremony on April 22 recognized third-year pharmacy students and marked the end of pharmacy curriculum in the classroom.

"The Pinning Ceremony is a great way to acknowledge our pharmacy students' completion of the first three years and to look ahead to their fourth year rotations of experiential learning," said professor Amy Broeseker. "They will be using their knowledge, skills and abilities to take care of patients, which is both a wonderful opportunity and a tremendous responsibility."

In students' last year of pharmacy curriculum, they completed eight rotations at numerous sites throughout the country and internationally. Each student prepared to work toward completing 1,600 hours of clinical experiences in their coming fourth year of pharmacy school, involving community pharmacy, ambulatory care, general medicine, institutional healthcare systems and medicine specialties.

"The ceremony was both exciting and encouraging for me as a student," said P3 student Sarah Grace Gunter. "It was rewarding to reflect on the hard work that my classmates and I have put into the past three years of didactic coursework, and it was great to see several of them recognized for their

accomplishments."

The ceremony recognized multiple students, including P3 student Zach Burns, who was awarded the Cardinal Health Independent Pharmacy Scholarship, which pays for one year of tuition. This scholarship was given to a third-year pharmacy student who has shown interest in and commitment to independent community pharmacy.

"Winning this scholarship means so much to me and my family," said Zach Burns, president of the class of 2017. "A lot of time and effort was put into developing my application and business case analysis presentation, so it was wonderful to see that pay off. I'm thankful for Cardinal Health and the McWhorter School of Pharmacy for such a wonderful opportunity to promote independent pharmacy ownership."

The Pinning Ceremony was an important time set aside for third-year pharmacy students to consider the upcoming transition in their education, from studying concepts in the classroom to applying them in practice at their clinical rotation sites.





9. Zach Burns graciously accepts the Cardinal Health Annual Independent Pharmacy Scholarship. 10. Ross Stanley takes a photo with his mom to commemorate the big day and his huge accomplishment. 11. Students and visitors fill Reid Chapel for the pinning ceremony. 12. Dr. Mary Worthington pins Sarah Montgomery. 13. Dr. Marshall Cates pins Emily Davis. 14. Dr. Kyle pins Tommy Corbin. 15. P3 students take the pharmacists pledge after being pinned. 16. Students chat and congratulate one another after the ceremony.

ARTICLE BY MEGHAN LENN



I. Members from each team leap for the ball. 2. Leo Cool grills burgers and hot dogs for the tournament. 3. Elijah Wade plays corn hole in the parking lot. 4. Nick Dechant rakes the sand on the court between games. 5. Team members stay alert while waiting for the serve. 6. Jerryn Migliore dives for the ball. 7. Players shake hands at the end of a game. 8. One player spikes the ball over the net as the other team prepares to return it. 9. Members of the Samford women's volleyball team prepare to return the ball to their opponents.

# Lambda Chi Alpha Volleyball Tournament

The Theta Alpha Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha held their philanthropy event, the Lambda Chi Volleyball Classic, on Saturday, April 23. The tournament took place at the Samford sand volleyball court at the intramural outdoor complex.

The fraternity had held this event annually in the past, but this was the first time in many years that the event had taken place. For the first year back in recent history, the tournament sought to raise awareness about multiple sclerosis, and all the proceeds were donated to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to fund cutting-edge research as well as to support programs and services for more than 7,000 families in Alabama and Mississippi affected by the disease.

"We really wanted to support a cause that hit close to home for our brotherhood," said Jordan Vallas, senior computer science major.

The brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha chose the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as the philanthropy for their event because one of their recent alumni, Alec Phillips, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis less than a year ago.

"I think the brothers of Lambda Chi truly took initiative and showed what a lifetime of true brotherhood really is by choosing to support Alec," said Elijah Wade, sophomore finance major.

The tournament was 4-on-4 single elimination, and nearly 60 people took part in the event.

"The volleyball classic turned out to be a huge success, and I definitely see it growing in the coming years," said Nisu Patel, philanthropy chairman and sophomore finance major. "We had 12 teams participate and helped raise over \$450 for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society."



10. Wade and Nisu Patel cheer from the sidelines. 11. Lambda Chi brothers and friends gather with Alec Phillips for a group photo after a successful event. 12. Alan Troxell sends the ball back over the net. 13. Attendees sign a banner for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, celebrating the money they raised to support their goal to one day "End MS Forever." 14. A team member prepares to serve the ball.

### Delight Flower Party



Delight was a college women's ministry that sought to create a vulnerable community that deepened girls' relationships with Christ and with one another. The group met once a week for fellowship, worship and transparent, Christ-centered discussion. Each week, the group read and talked through a testimony written by college students across America.

"Delight is a unique community," said Emma Eells, sophomore communication studies major. "It allows girls from all different walks of life to come together and share the Gospel. It is a place to be vulnerable and grow with other college women by talking about Jesus. It has been the biggest blessing."

To cultivate friendships among Samford women, Delight held one community event each semester. The event cultivated fellowship and a time of living life together outside of the stress of school. This year, the group held a flower party at Homewood Park. The event consisted of each Delight member bringing a separate bouquet of one type of flower, then creating a new bouquet of various flowers brought by other girls.

"There were so many flowers to choose from! My favorite were the fresh

hydrangeas and dandelions," said Meredith Hirt, freshman nursing major.

The sunny Saturday morning was complete with homemade goodies, fresh fruit and, of course, endless photo opportunities. Over a delicious brunch, members enjoyed conversation about Delight's impact on the community and the opportunities girls have had to gain new friendships. The event was the perfect way to wrap up a year of growth and development for Samford's community.

In addition to the flower party, Delight served various organizations throughout the year by making pancakes at Grace House or planting flowers for Sav-A-Life, a pregnancy resource center. The group also hosted worship nights each semester for the women to take time out of their busy schedules to praise the Lord. Since Delight was a community of women from all over campus, the group facilitated "delight dates," allowing Delight members to grow closer by getting to know each other's hearts through intentional encouragement, conversation and prayer.

"I am so excited to return to Delight in the fall," said freshman prebusiness major Lauren Mouchette. "All of the Delight girls are my family."













I.The ladies of Delight show off their bouquets made during the party. 2. Savannah Stewart chooses her favorite flowers from the wide assortment. 3. Hannah Moore, Kasey Lee, Emma Eells, Ruth Blackburn, Eliza Capps, Meredith Frost and Stewart celebrate their friendship and enjoy an afternoon together. 4. Meredith Hirt, Emily Clark, Abbey Hammond, Mattie Stark and Mary Clark Herrod pose with their flower arrangements. 5. "We love you berry much" welcomes guests to the picnic table. 6. A variety of flowers adorns the table and represents each member of the Delight community. 7. Carson Guess, Hirt, Clark and Kayleigh Hudson pick flowers for their bouquets.

#### Greek Awards

The annual Greek Awards were held April 25 on the fourth floor of Cooney Hall. More than 100 people representing various Greek organizations attended the awards ceremony, including current members, alumni, chapter advisors and members of Samford's administration.

"The Greek Awards is a great opportunity for all the organizations to gather together and recognize each other's achievements," said Catherine Moore, junior pharmacy major. "It's important to be supportive of one another in order to maintain unity on campus."

The event was held to recognize the various achievements of the Greek organizations on Samford's campus over the past year. The event offered dinner and an opportunity to socialize before the awards ceremony began. The Greek Awards recognized the efforts and achievements of the three national councils, the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC).

"I have really enjoyed being a part of IFC the past three years," said Stephen Mardis, senior nursing major. "Not only is it great to be a part of a fraternity, but I have also felt like I have been a part of a team who has benefitted all the fraternities."

To kick off the program, Julie Fletcher, director of Greek life, gave opening remarks. Garrison Rutledge, 2016 NPC president, and Jhamall Wright, 2015 NPHC president, were the emcees for the night, presenting many awards throughout the ceremony.

Alpha Delta Pi and Pi Kappa Phi were the 2015 Intramural Sports Champions; Zeta Tau Alpha and Sigma Chi won both the Outstanding Service Award and the Most Outstanding Philanthropy Award; and Chandler Head and Olivia Knight each received the Jessica Smith Service Award. The brothers and sisters of Phi Mu, Chi Omega and Alpha Tau Omega took home the Outstanding Academics Award; Delta Xi Phi, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Pi Kappa Phi received Most Improved GPA; and Delta Xi Phi, Chi Omega, Phi Mu, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Tau Omega and Pi Kappa Phi were named the chapters who had GPAs at or above the all-men's and all-women's grade point average.

Emily Frazier received the Emerging Leader Award; Alpha Kappa Alpha and Sigma Nu received the Outstanding Alumni Relations Award; and Chi Omega and Alpha Tau Omega received the Outstanding Interfraternal Relations Award. Zeta Tau Alpha and Pi Kappa Phi received Outstanding Campus Involvement Awards; Alpha Tau Omega, Sigma Chi and Zeta Tau Alpha were recognized for demonstrating positive public relations; and Alpha Delta Pi and Sigma Chi received the Outstanding Fraternal Values Awards.

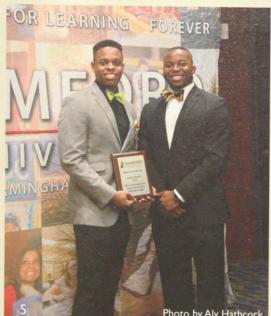
To wrap up the evening, individual awards were given to outstanding men and women who diligently served their organizations as well as the greater Greek community. Sara Watson of Phi Mu received the 2015 Alumni Advisor of the Year Award, Candia Cole received the 2015 Faculty Advisor of the Year Award, Molly McCoy was named Greek Woman of the Year and Matt Carrick was named Greek Man of the Year. At the end of the program, the Alpha Gamma chapter of Phi Mu was named Chapter of the Year.

"We are so proud of all of the Greek organizations," said Wright. "I believe everyone enjoyed their time at the Greek Awards; 2015 was a great year for Samford Greek Life."



I. Anna Catherine Davis , Amanda Hyde, Lindsey Derrick and Sarah Korta, members of the 2015-2016 Panhellenic Council, pose before the awards. 2. Mary Kate Young and Erica Smith manage the guest list and greet ceremony attendees. 3. Zack Garner presents Emily Frasier with the Emerging Leader Award. 4. Garner presents Matt Carrick with the Greek Man of the Year Award. 5. Jhamall Wright and Jalen Spraggins proudly display their award. 6. Heather Hugman, Haley Thornton, Katie Matuska, Garrison Rutledge, Young and Olivia Allensworth, the 2016-2017 Panhellenic Council, take advantage of the picturesque setting for a group photo. 7. The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega display their awards. 8. Garrison Rutledge presents Molly McCoy with the prestigious Greek Woman of the Year Award. 9. Sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi gather to commemorate their evening together. 10. Garrison Rutledge presents lvy Williams with an award. 11. Tanner Miles, Jhamall Wright and Savannah Newman proudly display their awards.













































## Junior Preview Day

The Student Recruitment Team (SRT) had a great year getting to know prospective students and families. By telling stories of their personal Samford experiences, SRT played an integral role in ensuring university growth.

No other day achieved this goal quite like Junior Preview Day, which took place April 23, as SRT hosted high school juniors and their families eager to visit campus. SRT enthusiastically showed off campus and answered all questions brought up on tours. SRT members were able to share their personal stories about how Samford had shaped not only their college experiences but their lives as a whole. These tour guides and student leaders provided prospective students with a firsthand account of what to expect if they were to become Bulldogs.

"My favorite part of SRT is being able to share a little bit of my college experience with different families," said senior accounting major Cole Moffet. "The past few years here have made a huge impact on my life, and I have loved being able to share that with other families."

For many students, campus tours allowed them to realize that Samford was the place for them and calmed their fears about the decision.

"Although they can be hectic, Preview Days would have to be my favorite part of SRT," said Spencer Cast, communications sciences and disorders major and SRT president. "Helping prospective students get to know and love Samford as much as we do is why we do this."

The SRT members started the day with check-in and registration at 7:30 a.m., greeting and directing prospective students and their families. Families were then ushered through the doors of the Wright Center and were welcomed by Dr. Westmoreland. Students and families were split into two groups for the day, and then the groups exited the Wright Center for campus tours, information sessions, the campus community fair and lunch.

Families learned about everything from the application process to tailgating as they participated in tailgate festivities before the Bulldogs hit the baseball field in a game against Kansas University.

"As a member of SRT, all we have to do is brag on Samford all day," said senior journalism and mass communication major Sarah Korta. "What could be better?"







I. Courtney Ingram and Sophie Lassonde give a tour of the library to prospective students. 2. Charlie Haney, Taylor Chadwell, Rob Johnston and Cole Moffett celebrate Preview Day with tickets to the big game. 3. Spencer Cast and Hannah Duncan pose at a t-shirt booth. 4. Stephan Givhan and Sarah Korta talk to group 19 on the quad. 5. Laura Klein and Karalee Geis pose while walking around the community fair. 6. Mary Kate Thomas presents information to visitors on campus. 7. Families leave the library as they continue their campus tour. 8. Courtney Throckmorton and Kara Young smile for the camera after their tour. 9. Moffett explains the various events and activities that take place in Ben Brown Plaza. 10. Courtney Brewer gives valuable information to her tour group. 11. Rob Johnston strikes a pose as AnnMarie Wright speaks to their tour group. 12. Ingram and Lassonde discuss library traditions with visiting families. 13. Josh Chitwood and Hannah Duncan joke with families on their tour. 14. Kristin Thurwachter and Lindsay Buechter walk through the parking lot to show visitors around campus.

### Sigma Chi Formal

The Pi chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity at Samford University held their spring formal April 23. The formal was held at the Park Crest Event Facility from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"Formal this year was awesome," said Christian Johnson, sophomore finance major. "The venue was really cool. We ate upstairs, and then, once we were done, we went downstairs to dance and have dessert. It was a really nice layout."

Chicken tenders, salad, mac and cheese and fruit were served for dinner. Brownies and cookies were offered for dessert, and there was also lemonade and water available for refreshments near the dance floor. In addition, classic model cars were on display on the ground floor for people to view.

"There was so much room for dancing," said Will Moody, senior physics major. "It was great because there was plenty of space to dance, but there were also old cars off to the side you could go look at or a patio outside if you needed fresh air."

The band Entice played at Sigma Chi's formal last year, and because the brothers loved them so much, they asked Entice to come back and play at this year's formal.

"This was one of the best formals we've had in my four years of being a Sigma Chi," said Jimmy Lichtenwalter, senior journalism and mass communication major. "The band was great, the food was great, the venue was beautiful and the company was even better. This was a great note to end on."



1. Sigma Chi seniors pose for one last group picture at the end of their final function. 2. Elizabeth Wood and Sam Bragg pause for a photo during the evening. 3. Cole Moffett and Lindsey Anderson enjoy taking pictures before the event. 4. Austin Gritters and Emma Smiley strike a pose. 5. Steven Givhan and Carlie Clack smile for the camera in their formal attire. 6. Ellen Williams and Audrey-Anne Workman flash their rings while fiancees Mason Hart and Stephen Mardis stand by. 7. Jimmy Lictenwalter escorts his date Langley Dillenberger to his formal. 8. Will Moody, Moffett, Lictenwalter and Bragg cut loose and goof off before the function. 9. Wood, Bragg and Moffett exchange high-fives in honor of a successful and fun evening. 10. Tanner Yancy, Moffett, Lictenwalter, Brandon Sauermann and Bragg enjoy time together, celebrating their brotherhood. 11. Moody smiles with his date, Austin Hasenmueller.











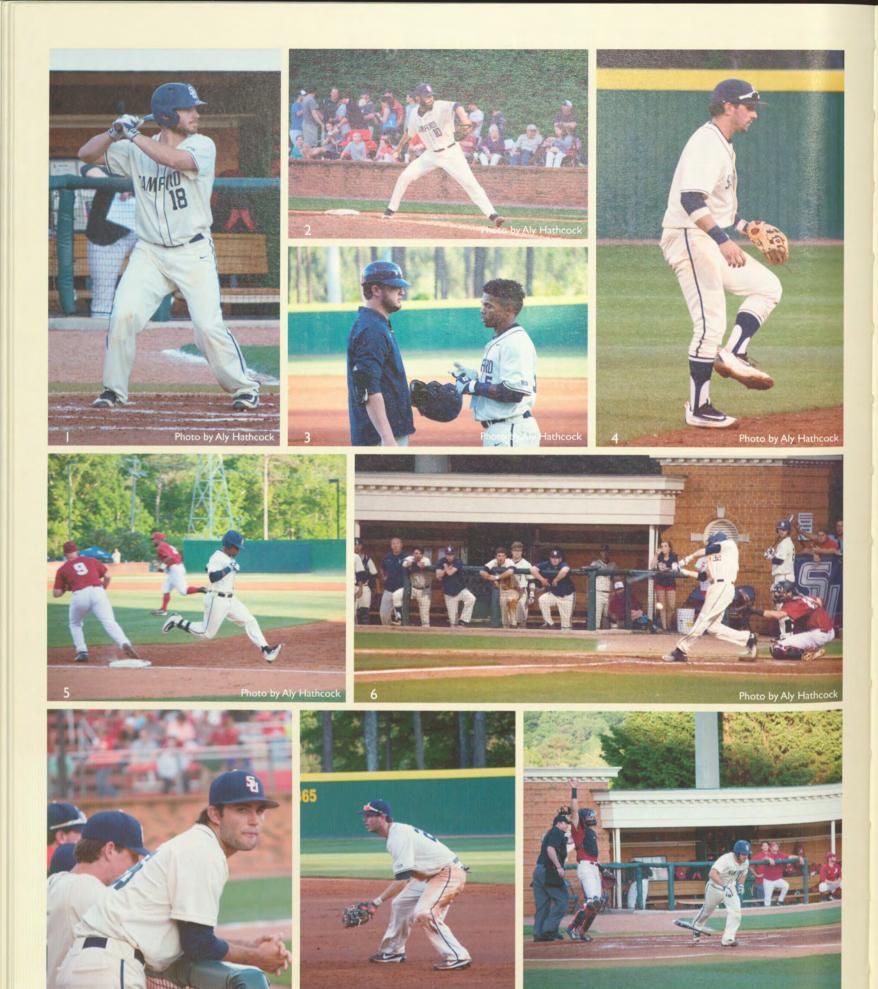












1. Grant Colton steps up to bat. 2. Tanner Cunningham throws a pitch to an Alabama batter. 3. TJ Dixon talks with a coach. 4. Alex Lee prepares to catch the ball. 5. Dixon runs through first base after a great hit. 6. Hunter Swilling swings at a pitch, hoping to get on base. 7. Kyle Stuart watches his teammates from the dugout. 8. Lee stops a ground ball. 9. Colton runs to first base. 10. The team celebrates their victory over the Crimson Tide. 11. Samford's pitcher seeks to strike out his opponent. 12. The scoreboard reflects the Bulldogs' close game and victory over Alabama.

Photo by Aly Hathcock

Photo by Aly Hathcock

# Baseball Game And Money Drop

early 2,000 people packed the stands of Joe Lee Griffin Field, as the Samford baseball team took on the University of Alabama April 26. The team played relentlessly until the very end of the game when, in the bottom of the ninth inning, freshman Ben Carrick hit the first home run of his collegiate career, batting in teammate Danny Rodriguez and securing the Bulldogs' 3-2 victory over the Crimson Tide.

"Ben's home run was huge, and I have to give a lot of credit to Danny for also getting a big hit there in the ninth inning," said head coach Casey Dunn. "It was a great win for us, and I thought we swung the bats well. I thought we did some good things, and it was definitely an outstanding atmosphere for our guys to play in front of. It was a great night across the board."

The excitement of winning was also accompanied by the chaos of the annual money drop following the game against Alabama. Students rushed the field as a helicopter flew over the baseball diamond, dropping money for spectators to collect. The energy at the event was tangible and left both the team and fans on a high.

The Bulldogs' victory over Alabama also contributed to a 35-26 overall record for the season, a record reflecting the teamwork and determination that

characterized Samford baseball.

"If there are runners on base, I'm trying to get them in; if I'm the leadoff guy, I'm just trying to get on base and start something," said sophomore sports administration major Heath Quinn about his strategy on the field.

Seven seniors modeled this spirit of teamwork and led the team throughout the 2016 season. Frankie Navarrete, Parker Curry, Jared Watson, Rodriguez, Damon Waller, Richard Greene and Alex Lee wore the Samford red and blue for the last time in a game against Western Carolina in the SoCon Tournament.

"When people remember 2016 Samford baseball, they're going to remember the heart," said Curry. "That's something I can live with for the rest of my life."

As the season came to a close, players and coaches alike reflected on the season and remained proud of their efforts.

"Ultimately, this was a good year," said Dunn. "It's always good to take some time and reflect on the season, and 35 wins is a big accomplishment. We're continually building pride within the program."



























I. Hailee Underhill, Emilie White, Courtney Bobo, Elizabeth Batson and Annie Green prepare for the car wash at the Garden Inn location.

2. Sisters wash a Jeep for their philanthropy, Children's Miracle Network.

3. Keely Smith cheerfully dries off a car.

4. Haley Collins joins in to encourage drivers to "Honk for CMNH."

5. Taylor Beek, Emma Paine, Casey Brookhart and Taylor Tippel smile before getting to work.

6. Tippel cleans a customer's white Xtera.

7. Adrianna Diaz and Katie McCrory soak their sponges to prepare for the next car.

## Phi Mu Car Wash



The sisters of Phi Mu hosted their annual car wash April 30 benefitting their philanthropy, Children's Miracle Network. The girls of the Alpha Gamma chapter spread out across Birmingham to wash cars and raise money and awareness for the cause.

"We have car wash stations at four restaurants around Birmingham, and we have Phi Mu girls at every location," said Delaney Harrison, junior political science major and Phi Mu president. "Our girls sell tickets ahead of time, and we have so many wonderful people come out to help us raise money for children at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals by getting their cars washed. It is such a fun way to work alongside our friends for something we all care about so much."

Annie Green, a sophomore pre-pharmacy major, said that she enjoys putting on the car wash with her sisters every year.

"While at the car wash, you just do whatever needs to be done," said

Green. "My favorite thing about this event is getting to jam out with my sisters while serving the community. There is nothing better than a little Taylor Swift jam session while scrubbing some tires until they look brand new."

The car wash had a great turnout, and the sisters of Phi Mu were able to raise approximately \$5,000 for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

"I love how we get the Samford community as well as the Birmingham community involved in raising money for our philanthropy," said Molly Morgan Brooks, sophomore human development and family science major and Phi Mu philanthropy chair. "Due to the fact that we were spread out across Birmingham, we had family members, faculty and students from Samford, as well as those from the Birmingham community, come out for the car wash. It was great to see everyone who came out to support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals."





8. Sydney Berry excitedly poses by all the clean cars. 9. Smith, Kina Jones and Molly Cash pose with their supplies. 10. Mikayla Scarborough and Millie Durden fill their bucket for the next car. 11. Sisters pose for a photo after a successful fundraiser for their philanthropy. 12. Scarborough uses a hose to rinse sudsy cars. 13. Bayley Sharp and Paine hold a sign inviting drivers to stop by and have their cars washed.

ARTICLE BY VICTORIA SHELTON

#### The SAMSPYS



Student athletes from every team across campus came together Monday, May 2, for the annual SAMSPYs, an evening dedicated to recognizing the accomplishments of Samford's athletes, coaches and staff. Dressed to the nines and enthusiastic about supporting their peers, students watched and cheered as many were presented with awards.

"The SAMSPYs capped off another great year of Samford Athletics," said Richard Green, senior business major and baseball player. "The student-athletes spend countless hours on the practice field, in the weight room and in the classroom representing our school to the best of their ability. It is always exciting for us athletes to gather and appreciate the accomplishments of other athletes throughout the year. It is also great to acknowledge the coaches and athletic administration because they invest so much into our school's student athletes."

The Mr. and Miss Bulldog 2016 awards were given to Green and to Taylor Reece, redshirt senior nursing major and women's basketball player. The award was given to the athletes who gave their all, both academically and athletically, while at Samford.

"It is nice to get all of us student athletes together for a night solely devoted to us," said Austin Edens, freshman baseball player. "It makes the Samford athletics family stronger, and it makes us feel appreciated for the hard work that we put in." Edens was awarded Male Rookie of the Year.

"The SAMSPYs, as always, was a well-done event," said Kinsey Sessions, senior exercise science major, soccer player and Jim Griffin Award winner. "It's always fun to see everyone all dressed up, but I really love getting to celebrate what we have done collectively as a university."

During the awards ceremony, David Vest, head coach of the women's tennis team, was named Head Coach of the Year, while Jay Yelton, associate head soccer coach, was recognized as the Assistant Coach of the Year.

The soccer team dedicated the season to Shauna Yelton, Coach Yelton's wife, who was battling cancer. The girls embraced the slogan "Shauna Strong!"

Yelton was honored to be the recipient of the Assistant Coach of the Year award. "I would like to dedicate my award to Shauna, a great competitor who fought a good fight and kept the course," he said. "To the girls of 2015, I will never forget your dedication to the team and to me. Much can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit."

Not only did the award ceremony acknowledge accomplishments of the student athletes and coaches, but it also recognizes those who support the teams. Jarrett Rice, director of operations and facilities, was recognized as the Support Staff of the Year.

"It truly means alot to me, and I couldn't have won without the people I have around me," said Rice.







ARTICLE BY PAIGE SHELBY













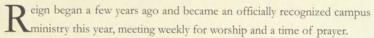






I. The men's tennis team poses with their coach on the red carpet. 2. Whitney Kirkland experiences her first SAMSPYs with teammates Sam Bush and Rachel Loughney. 3. Gavin Sinclair and Grey Adams take a selfie before presenting the next award. 4. Taylor Reece and Richard Green pose proudly with their Mr. and Miss Samford awards. 5. Alex Peters and Lydia McGee recognize the next award recipient. 6. The women's track and field team enjoys the evening together, celebrating their accomplishments. 7. Amara Mayers celebrates a successful senior season. 8. Margaret Grogan and Anna Long snap a photo before heading into the ceremony. 9. Mattie Newson presents an award to Karel Hamilton. 10. Athletes take a selfie with Martin Newton. 11. Kevin Marion, Alec Happel, Jes Sutherland and Andrew Harris stroll down the red carpet. 12. The volleyball team gathers for a group picture. 13. Wen Burnette, Terrell Woods, Carter McManes and Drew Pederson take a photo together after the award presentations.





"At Reign we desire an atmosphere of freedom where people can come worship and engage with our Heavenly Father's heart and experience life transformation," said Ryan Dickey, junior entrepreneurship major and a founder of Reign. "Reign has taught me that one moment in the presence of God can change everything."

About four years ago, the birth of Reign took place as three students pursued the presence of God through worship. They met in their dorm rooms, in classrooms at night and eventually in Reid Chapel. It was a journey as Reign moved from its beginning to becoming an official campus ministry just four years later.

"Being on a student leadership board taught me a lot about servant leadership and how a spiritual body is created to operate," said senior mathematics major Savannah Newman. "It strengthened my relationship with Christ because I was challenged to lead by example and to shepherd those

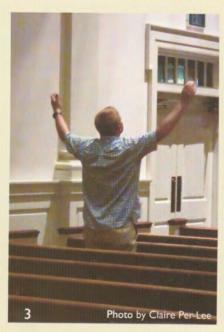


around me. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my college career and grew me personally a great deal."

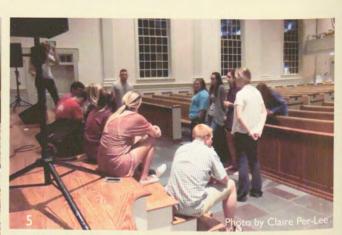
Reign worship was left in the hands of new leaders who desired to see the ministry continue. Every Tuesday night, Reid Chapel became a place for students from every area of campus to come and simply be in the presence of God. Those involved with Reign desired intimacy with God and hoped to create an atmosphere of freedom for all to come and find peace. There was no pressure, no timeline, just a space for any and every student to come and worship without distractions.

Many students loved being apart of the Reign family since its beginning. Reign was a place where young men and women were welcomed with open arms from the very start.

"It has been my home away from home," said Emily Pitts, sophomore theater major. "The godly friendships I have created have led me to Christ daily. I have found freedom in the Lord, and that is what Reign is all about."







I. Sophie Lassonde opens in prayer for students gathered in Reid Chapel as Reign begins. 2. Ryan Dickey and Megan Eber lead students in a time of worship. 3. Students are encouraged to spread out around Reid Chapel and worship however they are most comfortable. 4. Madison Smith takes a moment to center her thoughts on the Lord as worship begins. 5. Members of Reign gather at the front of the chapel as they prepare for worship.

### Student Media Launch

The Crimson, Entre Nous, Sojourn and The Local were student publications created and published throughout the year. The Crimson printed a new issue each Wednesday to distribute around campus.

"Being editor-in-chief of *The Crimson* gives you a front-row seat to the happenings and conversations on campus," said senior journalism and mass communication major Emily Featherston. "It is by no means an easy job, but it was one of the most rewarding things I did while at Samford. *The Crimson* is an important part of Samford's history and future. It allows students a forum for discussion and also aims to show them the good and bad of the community they are a part of."

The Local and Sojourn were published less frequently than The Crimson. Students who worked diligently to produce The Local published two issues throughout the year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Sojourn was published once in the spring.

During the first week of May, both publications hosted launch parties to celebrate and distribute their final issues of the year. *Sojourn* was launched May 5 in Harry's Coffeehouse after the staff sent out a tweet, letting students know the publication was available. Those who stopped by were also offered

delicious cookies in addition to their copy of Sojourn.

The Local, formerly known as Exodus magazine, launched in Ben Brown Plaza on May 8 with extra excitement. The Local staff gathered to pass out magazines and churros in honor of Cinco de Mayo, which had recently taken place.

"The Local was created to pop the Samford bubble in a way," said Grace Miserocchi, senior journalism and mass communication major and editor-inchief of The Local. "It is focused more on the city of Birmingham. We hope the magazine encourages the Samford community to venture outside their usual routines and try something new."

Regardless of the publication, student media was a team effort, made possible by the hard work and dedication of countless students from all across campus.

"Getting involved with student media has been one of my favorite things," said senior journalism and mass communication major Katherine Cloninger. "I wrote for multiple campus publications because it was a great way to stay in the know while also informing my peers."





I. The staff members of *The Local* hold up their finished product and proudly smile for a photo. 2. Students stop by the table to pick up a copy of the magazine. 3. Copies of *The Crimson* along with other publications are found on news stands around campus. 4. *The Local* editor Grace Miserocchi and *Sojourn* editor Kate Sullivan smile and celebrate a job well-done.



























### Summer Send Off



As the school year came to a close, the whole campus celebrated the first-ever Summer Send Off in Ben Brown Plaza. Summer Send Off took the place of Spring Fling because of the Student Activities Council's goal to end the year in a memorable way.

"I love that Samford gives students so many opportunities to be involved on campus, like Summer Send Off," said junior nursing major Natalie Cerasoli.

Summer Send Off began with a flea market in Ben Brown, where 30 student vendors set up booths, selling a variety of products. Students could look around and shop while enjoying free Doodle's Italian Ice. Day one of Summer Send Off came to a close with food trucks and an evening concert in Ben Brown. The concert featured John King and Samford students Rebecca Womack and Trip Wood.

"It was the first time Rebecca and I got to perform together," said junior journalism and mass communications major Trip Wood. "Actually, I hadn't ever sung in front of anyone at all until a few weeks before at my band's first show. While I was pretty nervous, it brought me and Rebecca closer together

and is by far one of my favorite Samford experiences."

Day two of Summer Send Off was Boardwalk Day, where students could go fishing for prizes in the Ben Brown fountain, play carnival games and indulge in free hotdogs and frozen lemonade.

Day three was Beach Day. Those passing through Ben Brown enjoyed taking pictures with colorful beach balls, leis and tiki torches that decorated campus. Students played limbo, ring toss and other games, while also enjoying free mocktails and appetizers. Later that evening, Samford hosted a comedy night in Harry's Coffeehouse featuring John Crist. Free appetizers and desserts were provided at the event.

"Day three was my favorite day," said sophomore accounting major Katherine Gibson. "It was a nice study break where I could go enjoy the sunshine and mocktails with my friends in Ben Brown."

Summer Send Off was a perfect way to end the spring semester. The events provided opportunities for students, faculty and staff to come together, unwind and celebrate another great semester.





6. Allie Haywood, Paige Shelby, Kathleen Sharp, Emily Duval and Lauren Hutchens unwind in Ben Brown after turning in their semester project. 8. JoAnn Hughes puts the finishing touches on a bracelet she is selling. 9. Audrey Barth and Emory Williams enjoy playing games between classes. 10. Students participating in the flea market are excited to sell their jewelry to peers. 11. Students enjoyed fresh fruit to fit the tropical theme of the day. 12. Catherine Guardabassi smiles with SAC members near the t-shirt tent and celebrates another successful event. 13. Caroline Tudor waits for students to arrive and shop at her table. 14. Mattie Eubanks slides down the moon bounce in Ben Brown.

### "At Our Wit's End" Fellows Event

The University Fellows program hosted its annual Wit's End party in the Howard Room May 4 to celebrate the sophomore class's completion of the Fellows curriculum.

The party was hosted by sophomore Fellows Keely Smith and Chris Kawell, with assistance from the program's administration. Students shared a meal, which was followed by a video montage of their trip to Italy, a game of Jeopardy and class superlatives.

"I had so much fun helping plan the Wit's End party because it gave me the chance to give back to the program and community that I love so much," said Smith, a triple major in history, global studies and Spanish. "Wit's End was a great way to celebrate the wonderful friendships we have formed and all the accomplishments we have made over the past two years."

"Fellows take a rigorous interdisciplinary sequence of four great books courses, as well as writing and rhetoric, scientific inquiry, Biblical perspectives, calculus and virtues," said Dr. Bryan Johnson, director of the Fellows program. "These are intense courses that make special demands on students

to stretch beyond the discipline-specific work of their majors. The Wit's End party is a chance for sophomores who have finished the University Fellows core curriculum to spend time together, sharing memories and enjoying the camaraderie of being a Fellow."

The central class of the Fellows program—a four-semester course—is termed "Western Intellectual Tradition," or WIT. The name of this party—Wit's End—expressed the celebration and exhaustion that resulted from the students' intellectual pursuits. The program, in addition to academic rigor, helped students develop long-lasting friendships.

"I am so grateful and blessed with the opportunity to be in this program and learn with my fellow students," said Sarah McGhee, sophomore psychology major. "It's the main reason I came to Samford, and it has definitely been worth every late night. The people make Fellows a fellowship, and I'm thankful for that."

This sentiment was reflected by each of McGhee's classmates, and the cheer and merriment of the Wit's End celebration exhibited that attitude.









ARTICLE BY MADELINE PERKINS











Photo by Emily







I. The University Fellows celebrate their accomplishments with their professors and peers. 2. Brock Fogle, Casey Cunningham and Madeline Perkins enthuse about completing their curriculum. 3. Hannah Johnston displays her certificate with pride. 4. University Fellows gather for food and refreshments at the party. 5. The students say a prayer in the Howard Room before the party begins. 6. Dallas Knight, Ryan Lally, Michael Megginson and Madeline Ingram have dinner together at the event. 7. Chris Kawell, Megginson and Rachel Thompson enjoy their time together as Fellows. 8. Students listen intently as the program begins. 9. Everyone gathers to talk, eat and reminisce about the school year. 10. Ray Herbert and Sarah Marriot grin as the year comes to an end. 11. Knight, Zachary Taunton, Ingram, Lally and Gabby Phillips celebrate their certificates. 12. Friends spend time together before parting for the summer.

# Sons Of Light Scavenger Hunt

As "dead day" approached, students anticipated a day of studies or, for some, relaxation before hitting the books. Samford's most beloved secret society had a different agenda. Renie Moss, assistant vice president for student life, was asked to distribute an email to all Samford students, informing them of an upcoming challenge to take place on dead day. No further instructions were given; students were simply told to mark their calendars and begin gathering their teams of no more than four members.

When the clock struck noon May 6, the Sons of Light released the following message via their Twitter page for all eager Samfordians to partake in its assignment:

North, East, West and South...unto these four winds the Sons have scattered codes of quick response. Gather them, in teams of two to four and from noon to nine, post meridian. Search swiftly, for each time a code is caught, its prize loses points. The winningest team, at nine tonight, will be that which has the most points, and they shall win inner knowledge of the brotherhood. God be with ye and good luck.

Students quickly began searching all four corners of campus for the QR codes strategically hidden high and low. Just two hours into the search, the Sons of Light sent out another message announcing that there were a total of 100 codes scattered across campus.

"I was super excited when I first saw the email about the Sons of Light challenge, as I have participated every year," said senior religion major Camille Honts. "I had my team of four within minutes. This year's hunt was very different than the others. There was very little direction. It made things interesting, though, because my friends and I were crawling on our hands and knees and sprinting all over campus looking for the QR codes. My team and I were not sure how well we were doing, but we ended up coming in second. It was a great finish to senior year."

Around 7 p.m., 6,000 points remained, and 15 codes had not yet been found. When the clock struck 9 p.m., the Vestal Virgins were proclaimed the victors and they were granted inner knowledge of the Sons of Light brotherhood.

"Our team, the Vestal Virgins, was comprised of Franklin Lowe, Rae Patterson, Chelsea Pennington and myself," said Sam Hahn, senior classics major. "When confronted with the challenge of the QR codes, we decided to split up to cover more ground."

Another member of the winning team, senior English major Rae Patterson, said, "In some ways this scavenger hunt was more difficult than in the past. At least there was more uncertainty about how well your team was doing, because you had no way of knowing whether you had collected all the QR codes, or whether anyone else had scanned it before you and reduced the points."

The scavenger hunt made for an eventful dead day and an exciting way to wrap up the last week of classes.









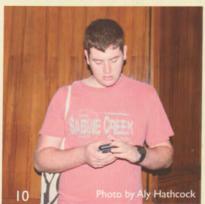










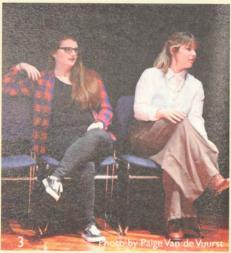


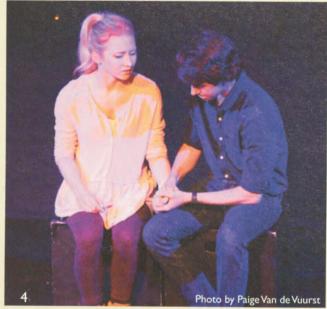


1. Students show off the Sons of Light messages they received for the scavenger hunt. 2. Margaret Mason scans a code that she found. 3. Armed with coffee, a student scans a code and moves on to find the next one. 4. Chelsea Pennington makes her way upstairs to search for more clues. 5. Karson Loomis reads a new message. 6. Camille Honts discusses what the messages mean with her team. 7. A QR code hides in the doorway of Divinity North 207. 8. Elizabeth Mullins finds the code she is searching for. 9. The Sons of Light set up an elaborate display in Ben Brown Plaza during the year, leaving students with mysterious poems and encouragement for finals. 10. Sam Hahn attempts to decipher a message. 11. Pennington explores different classrooms around campus, searching for clues.

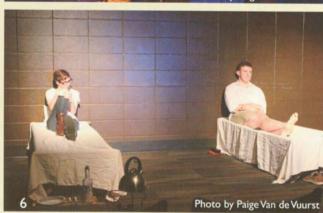


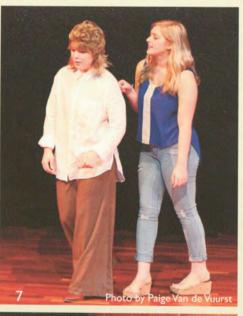
















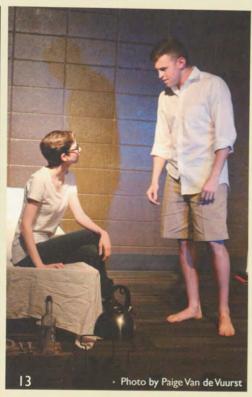


I. Kat Sterling evokes emotion as her one-act character. 2. One character makes a phone call during her performance. 3. Students play complete opposites in their show. 4. Jack Dowey performs an intimate scene with his castmate. 5. Madeleine Masson lounges while talking with Caroline Reynolds and JoAnna Little. 6. Anna Huff chats with Chandler Luther's character while on neighboring beds. 7. Masson talks to Reagan Dobbs' wigged character. 8. Katie Beazley graces the stage in a wedding gown and veil. 9. Little stubbornly confronts Caroline Reynolds. 10. Cody Sparks cautiously knocks on the door.

# Alpha Psi Omega Presents One Act Plays







Alpha Psi Omega (APO), a national theatre honor society, was formed in 1925. When asked to describe APO, senior theatre major and president of the Tau Lambda chapter, Anna Dunbar, said, "It is an organization that strives to integrate the theatre arts on campus and stress its importance."

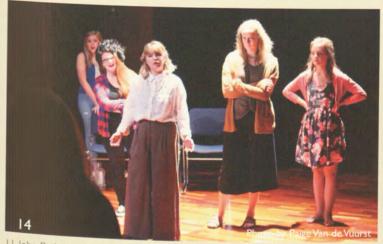
APO hosted many annual events on campus, including Monday Night Live, campus-wide Halloween parties, the 10-Minute Play Festival and the Bonie Awards. One of the organization's most beloved events was the annual One Act Play Festival.

The One Act Festival was an evening during which students in the Advanced Directing class had the opportunity to direct a one-act play, cast with students from all over campus. The festival, held May 5, was well-received. Five directors each put on a show that lasted an hour. The directors worked on these one-act productions for more than a month, addressing each and every aspect of their show to ensure the audience's enjoyment.

"The One Act Festival is one of my favorite things we get to do as the theatre department," said Kaitlin Moore, senior theatre major and one of this year's One Act Festival directors. "It's a wonderful opportunity for directors in the Advanced Directing class to get to put on a full production, tech aspects and all, for an audience. It was so exciting to be a director this year and to get to be a part of a marathon night of theatre."

The festival did more than just entertain; it also utilized the exceptional talents of Samford's students.

"The process of working on the one-acts proved invaluable in the discovery of my directing style," said Addison Debter, senior theater major and One Act Festival director. "I learned that I am a character-focused director, as opposed to a plot-focused director. While the plot isn't necessarily unimportant, I believe the development of the characters is essential to effectively portraying the story."





11. John Perine gets a lecture in their one-act. 12. Characters have a serious conversation. 13. Huff is confronted by Luther in their scene. 14. The one-act actresses join together for a group scene. 15. Sparks, Perine and Beazley take their final bows.

# Cinco De Mayo Celebration



The Latino Students Organization (LSO) and the Spanish Club teamed up to celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Ben Brown together, featuring a mariachi band, dancing, chips and salsa and a piñata. The celebration sought to highlight what Cinco de Mayo actually means and helped students understand the different cultures within Latin America.

"It starts by immersing you slowly into our culture, seeing how fun it is and how diverse it is. At our events, we don't just have one specific country or culture," said Dulce Rivera, junior accounting major and LSO president.

The event encouraged all Samford students and faculty to get involved with Spanish Club events, especially on Cinco de Mayo. "Anybody who wants to come can come, so people invite their friends," said Eden Harris, junior political science major and Spanish Club president.

Cinco de Mayo was just one of the many events both organizations hosted together during the year. Salsa Nights were some of the most popular, as a professor, student or hired choreographer came to teach students how to salsa.

Though two different organizations, Spanish Club and LSO worked toward the same goal of teaching students about the multiple facets of Spanish culture. The organizations sought to get students from all areas of campus involved, emphasizing that speaking Spanish was not a requirement for being involved.

"A lot of people say, 'Oh, I'm not Latino,' or, 'Oh, I don't speak Spanish,' but that's the thing," said Kevin Aparicio, sophomore law, politics, and society major and member of both organizations, "we want to show students that you don't have to be Latino, and you don't have to speak Spanish because we speak English, too."

Both clubs held multiple events during the semester. Spanish Club met to play games, eat dinner and host charity events. LSO gathered for conversation, dinners and meetings to learn about different Latin American heritages and cultures. After hosting the Cinco de Mayo event together, Spanish Club and LSO planned to host other events together in the future.





1. Nyeedra Davis, Dulce Rivera and Juliana Guzman pose with the mariachi band in Ben Brown Plaza. 2. Students stop by the Spanish Club and LSO table to get chips and salsa and other treats. 3. Ross English takes a swing at the piñata.

ARTICLE BY HALLIE KING



















4. Abi Kania takes a turn trying to hit the piñata. 5. Students survey the goodies and snacks that the Spanish Club and LSO have to offer. 6. Fernanda Herrera cheers while watching different students swing at the piñata. 7. Eden Harris takes a selfie for the Samford Caf Snapchat story. 8. Rivera helps hang the piñata from trees in Ben Brown Plaza. 9. Frankie Navarrete and Guzman pose with their Cinco de Mayo informational sign. 10. Lauren Sims and Harris enjoy celebrating with the mariachi band. 11. Dr. Carlos Aleman blindfolds and spins Kania around before letting her swing at the piñata. 12. Students rush to collect candy from the broken piñata.



















# A Cappella Choir Spring Concert

n May 5, the A Cappella Choir combined with the Bells of Buchanan to perform their spring concert. The choir sang 15 pieces divided into four segments, featuring multiple languages from numerous cultures and time periods.

Dr. Philip Copeland, professor and A Cappella Choir director, emphasized variation in his song choices. "I like to select music that spans musical history," Dr. Copeland said. "If possible, I include music from a thousand years ago – like the Gregorian chant – as well as music from the last 400 years."

Katie Diquollo, sophomore journalism and mass communication major, attended the concert and was most interested in the solos. "It gave the students a chance to showcase their talent and what they bring to the choir as an individual," DiQuollo said.

Most pieces were comprised entirely of group singing; however, two songs included soloists. Tenor Austin Foster and bass Evan Gunter were featured in "Daniel, Daniel," and mezzo soprano Katie Thompson was featured in "Deep River."

The A Cappella Choir had some very loyal fans, like freshman classics and English double major Emily London, who attended every A Cappella Choir event throughout the school year.

"Even though all of the pieces from the choir tour were impressive, my favorite part of the concert was when they sang 'Beautiful Savior,' and all of the alumni of the choir came to the stage to sing with them," said London. The invitation for alumni to join the choir in singing was a longstanding tradition that happened at each concert.

The choir departed for an international tour through Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia on May 15, beginning their third tour in the last five years. Dr. Copeland was incredibly proud of the choir's accomplishments and hoped the group would continue performing throughout the United States and worldwide.

"Samford A Cappella is more than a choir," said Dr. Copeland. "It is a group that pursues excellence in all things, and we are proud to represent the best of what the university has to offer."



1. The A Cappella Choir fills Reid Chapel with their harmonies. 2. Students watch as Dr. Copeland directs the different sections of the group, cueing each part when they ought to come in. 3. The Bells of Buchanan join the choir as part of the concert. 4. A student follows the music as she rings her part. 5. Students hold their notes beautifully. 6. Dr. Copeland addresses the audience amid the concert. 7. Riana Lonquist and fellow supranos carry the melody. 8. Students' voices carry across the chapel. 9. Dr. Copeland introduces the bell choir. 10. The A Cappella Choir stands with Dr. Copeland as the audience applauds their performance.







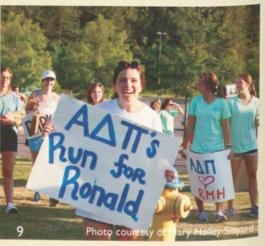












## Alpha Delta Pi Run For Ronald

The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi hosted their 3rd annual neon-themed 5k, Run for Ronald, May 7. The purpose of the event was to raise money for their philanthropy, the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House serves as a "home-away-from-home" for families and loved ones so that they can be close to their hospitalized child.

"Run for Ronald takes place across the street from Samford on the Lakeshore trail," said junior pharmacy major and Alpha Delta Pi president Lauren Hammond. "We love to see Samford students, faculty, alumni, parents, Alpha Delta Pi sisters and other members of the Birmingham community dress up in bright colors and join together to raise money for our philanthropy."

From the start line to the finish, the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi supported the runners by cheering for and encouraging them with motivational signs and posters along the route.

Brooke Hogoboom, a junior health sciences major, loved volunteering with other girls in the Kappa chapter to bring this fun event together and make

it a memorable experience for those running.

"My job at Run for Ronald was to stand on the trail and encourage the runners throughout the race," said Hogoboom. "My favorite part was working alongside my good friend Garrison, singing and giving high-fives to all the runners as they finished."

Run for Ronald had a great turnout, as the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi raised a total of \$11,305 for their philanthropy.

"I love how excited our sisters and people from the community get about supporting the Ronald McDonald House," said Allie Gassner, junior human development and family science major and Alpha Delta Pi philanthropy chair.

Overall, Run for Ronald was a great success, as the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi enjoyed each other's company and the company of those in the Samford and Birmingham communities while supporting their philanthropy and raising money for a great cause.







I. Sisters of Alpha Delta Pi gather for a group picture at Run for Ronald. 2. Meg Alford and Ann Mathews Hester hug for a photo in their neon. 3. Madeline Zaragoza, Breanna Broadrick and Caroline Bruce sport festive face paint for the event. 4. Judy Latta poses with friends who came to support the event. 5. Bella McLay, Natalie Laurence and Lizzie Kolakoski are ready to run together. 6. Caroline Carlisle smiles with a sister by the Run for Ronald banner. 7. Jessica Burleson, Morgan Perry and Nellie Hoehl enjoy time together before the run begins. 8. Girls gather for a picture at the event. 9. Hoehl cheers runners on, excited about their philanthropy. 10. Runners are off as the Run for Ronald begins. 11. Burleson and Hoehl pose after finishing the race. 12. Paige Shelby and Katie Scott enjoy supporting a good cause together.

ARTICLE BY VICTORIA SHELTON

### May Commencement

reminder to the Samford community as the university's 175th year began with the celebration of another commencement. Over the course of eight ceremonies occurring within the first two weeks of May, hundreds of graduates walked across the Wright Center stage to receive their diplomas.

This year's commencement ceremonies were particularly unique. Along with countless twenty-somethings, the Howard College of Arts and Sciences presented 85-year-old Lottie Jacks with a Bachelor's degree in biology and 90-year-old Lois Ewart with an Associate degree in art. Both women had initially began their schooling at Howard College in the 1940s and recently returned to Samford to finally complete their degrees.

While these two women were each recognized with standing ovations, all of the graduates felt honored on their big day. Not only were they proud to receive a diploma for which they had worked so diligently, but graduates felt inspired and ready to go out into the world and use their newfound knowledge to make a difference.

"Thanks to the teaching and the nurturance I have received from my professors and the hands-on experiences my classes gave me, I am confidently stepping into the real world, knowing that Samford has prepared me for it," said Taylor Vassey, journalism and mass communication graduate. Vassey walked across the stage and joined the ranks of thousands of proud Samford alumni.

Many graduates returned to campus to support their friends as they walked across the stage as well.

"The best part about coming back to Samford for commencement was seeing Dr. Westmoreland stand up before the graduating class and continue to motivate and encourage them in the way he motivated and encouraged my class one year ago," said Hannah Blanton, a 2015 human development and family science graduate. "We are blessed to have such a sincere, faithful president who loves and shepherds students like he does."

The 2016 commencement ceremonies gave everyone the opportunity to reflect on the past year of learning and all that Samford had provided them.



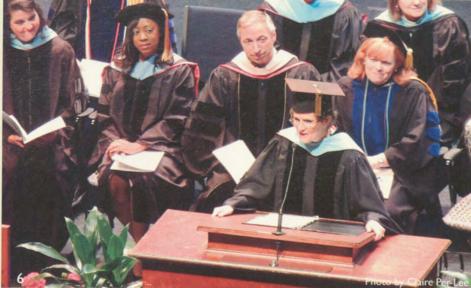
I.The A Cappella Choir sings for those gathered at commencement. 2. Lauren Sims smiles proudly with her mom after having won the 2016 John C. Pittman Spirit Award. 3. Madeline Rhine receives her degree from Dr. Westmoreland. 4. Dr. Westmoreland addresses all of the graduates, encouraging them as they embark on their next chapter. 5. Professors present graduates with their hoods. 6. Mrs. Dr. Westmoreland addresses graduates from the School of the Arts and the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education. 7. Caroline Tudor excitedly shakes Dr. Westmoreland's hand and walks across the stage. 8. Molly Brown smiles with her brother, taking photos with her family to commemorate her graduation. 9. Dr. Westmoreland laughs as his wife makes a joke in her speech to the graduates. 10. Friends gather for a group hug to congratulate each other after the ceremony. 11. Everyone joins in singing the Samford Alma Mater as the graduation ceremony comes to a close.





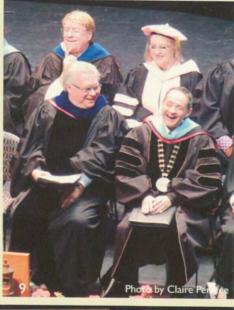
















# A Letter To Our Graduates



Dear Samford friend:

If you've seen our home you already know that the members of our family love books. They fill the places where they ought to be—bookshelves—but they also lie on tables and countertops, beside chairs, and at random places throughout the house. Boxes of our books sit in closets, waiting for their moment of redemption.

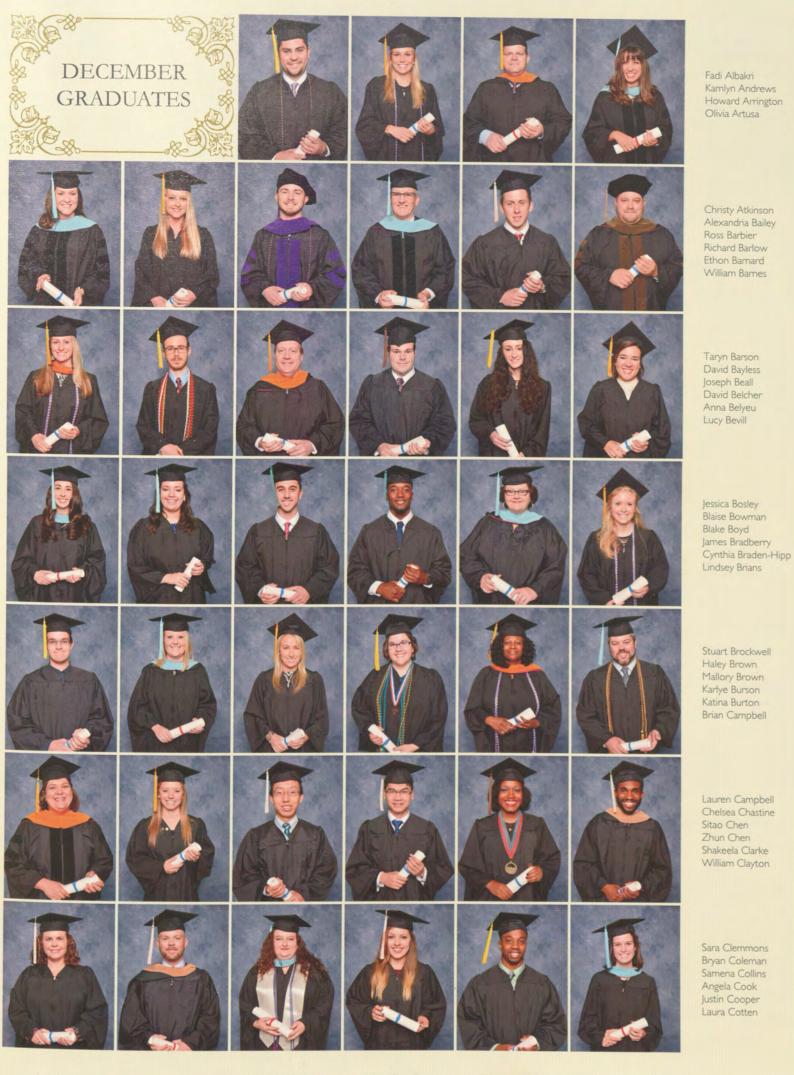
Among the most treasured of our books are those similar to the one that you hold in your hands, the 40 college yearbooks that span our lives in higher education. From my earliest college photographs, bearded radical that I was, and pictures of Jeanna as a beautiful freshman, to stories of games won and lost, to memories of faculty members who shaped our lives, to friends remembered and dreams lost and found, the books are nested in a special place in our home and in our hearts.

This book, your book, will be a treasure to you because it represents our Samford community at a particular moment in time. The value of your Samford experience is impossible to contain within one volume, written as those experiences are in your mind and in your soul, but the book will be reminder to you throughout your life, and perhaps the lives of those who will come after you, of the place and the people who are important to your enduring story.

On behalf of the devoted staff of Entre Nous, best wishes for each day of life.

Sincerely, Andrew Westmoreland





DECEMBER — 199 — DECEMBER GRADUATES

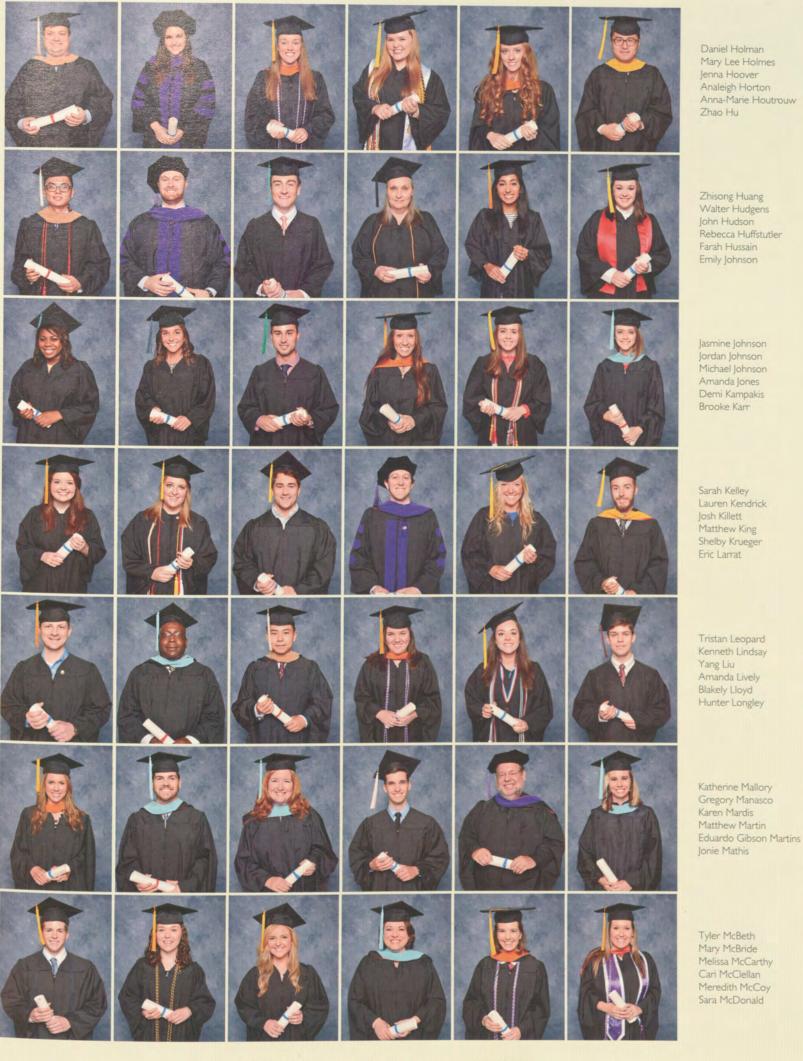
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Brian Hayes Rezvan Heidari Lauren Henson Sara Hess Rachel Higginbotham Elaine Hoggle

Hallie Georgi

Rachel Guest

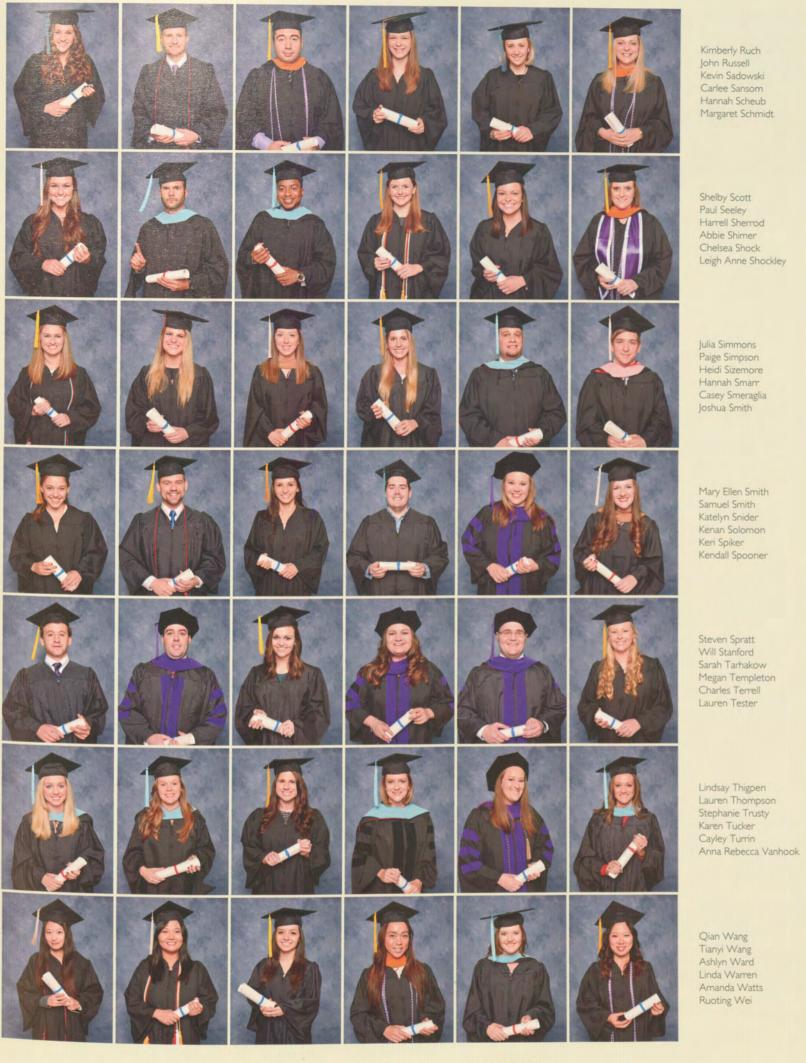
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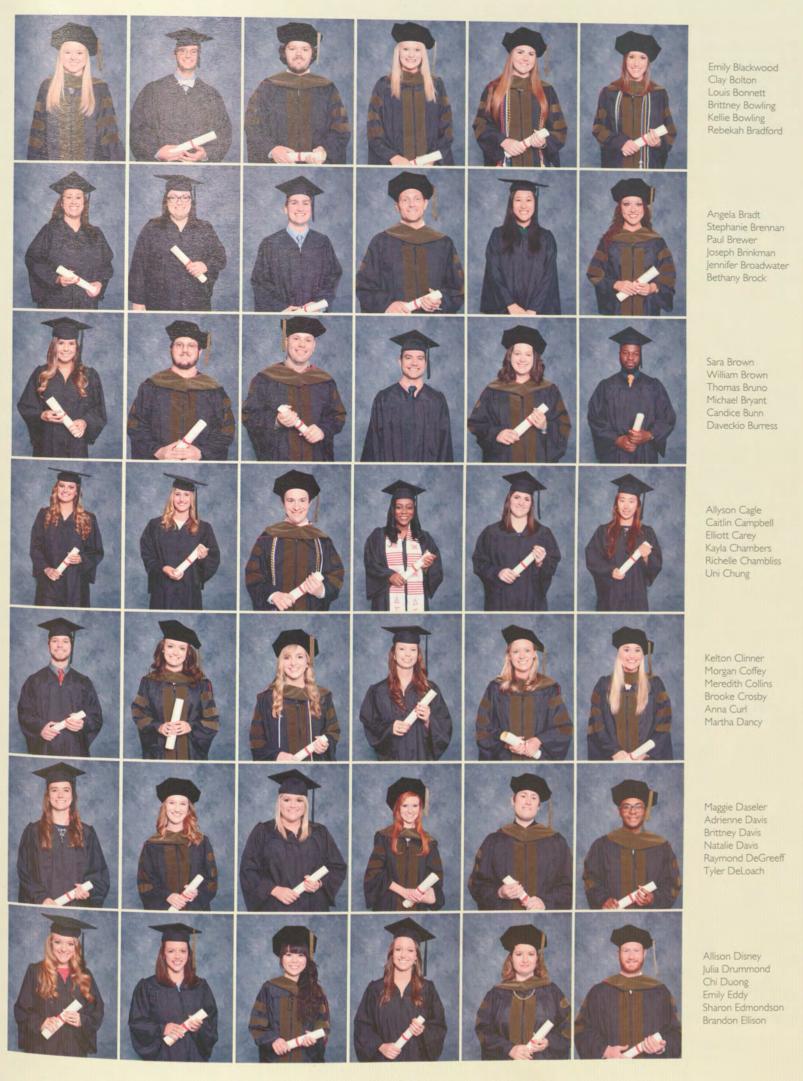
Alexander McSwain Karen Melillo Jon Metz Justin Minick Morgan Mitchell Melissa Montgomery Kyndall Moorman-Key Arica Moss Michael Moye Rachel Munn Julie Lynn Myers Kebrina Nash Sharon Nelson Sarah Niebur Sara Norrell Cynthia Northorp Jessica Oliver Sonya Orr Joseph Owens Renee Palmer Will Parsons Sarah Patterson Kemi Patton Lindsey Pearson Kendall Person Chris Phillips Shelia Phillips Michael Pierce Alexis Plourde Katelyn Poole David Presley Jessica Price Jennifer Pritchett Carlin Ram Morgan Ramsey Elyse Raveill Spenser Reed Samantha Reedy Jeff Rehovsky Paige Reznikov Mary Alyssa Rhudy Nathan Robertson

DECEMBER — 202 — DECEMBER GRADUATES



DECEMBER — 203 — DECEMBER GRADUATES

William Wesley III Winsten Whitecotton Teresa Whitwell Jordan Williams Madeline Williams Sarah Williams Timothy Winstead Neely Woodley Alison Woods Denise Woods Stephanie Wright John Yarbrough Elizabeth Yontz Fangzhou Zhao Kaiwen Zheng Yiyan Zheng Xinchen Zhou Meredith Zotkiewicz Leslie Zurowski MCWHORTER Madinah Abdullah SCHOOL OF Jake Ackermann PHARMACY Jared Akers Emily Allen-Vieira Andrew Almon Sean Altendorf Amber Anderson Cody Armstrong Lauren Aslinger Amanda Atchison Blaise Aziagba John Bailey Taylor Bailey Nicole Baren Kirsten Barnwell Christine Baughn Jennifer Beard Jordan Beatty Aaron Beckner Whitney Bemreuter Amelia Billingsley



Hillary Estright Christopher Evans Nicholas Evans Stacy Farry Jessica Fields Rhiannon Fields Kelsey Flanagan George Foran Jana Formby Keith Foster Jenna Foyt Patrick Franklin Seth Fricks Demetrius Garner Brittany Gaynes Kelsey George Sebastian George Steven Glass Cheyenne Godwin Grant Goldenstar Mike Gong Stephanie Gore Frances Grappe Katherine Greenhill Asia Hart Megan Hartfield Ashley Heard Meagan Higdon Taylor Hightower Benjamin Hixon Hannah Hoggle Keyannah Holloway Mary Emily Hooks Lindsay Hume Courtney Ingram Will Gilbert Jemigan Blake Johnson Bradley Johnson Carly Johnson Charles Johnson Lacey Johnson Lauren Johnson

PHARMACY — 206 — PHARMACY



Cathy Tankoua Anne Marie Thibodeaux John Thomas Rebecca Tindle Kelsey Tomb Linh Tong

Raj Patel Hunter Payne Courtney Pearson Stetson Pevear Collin Plourde Michaela Poore

> Braxton Posey Haley Posey Marcus Posey Megan Preston Rachelle Reid John Riles

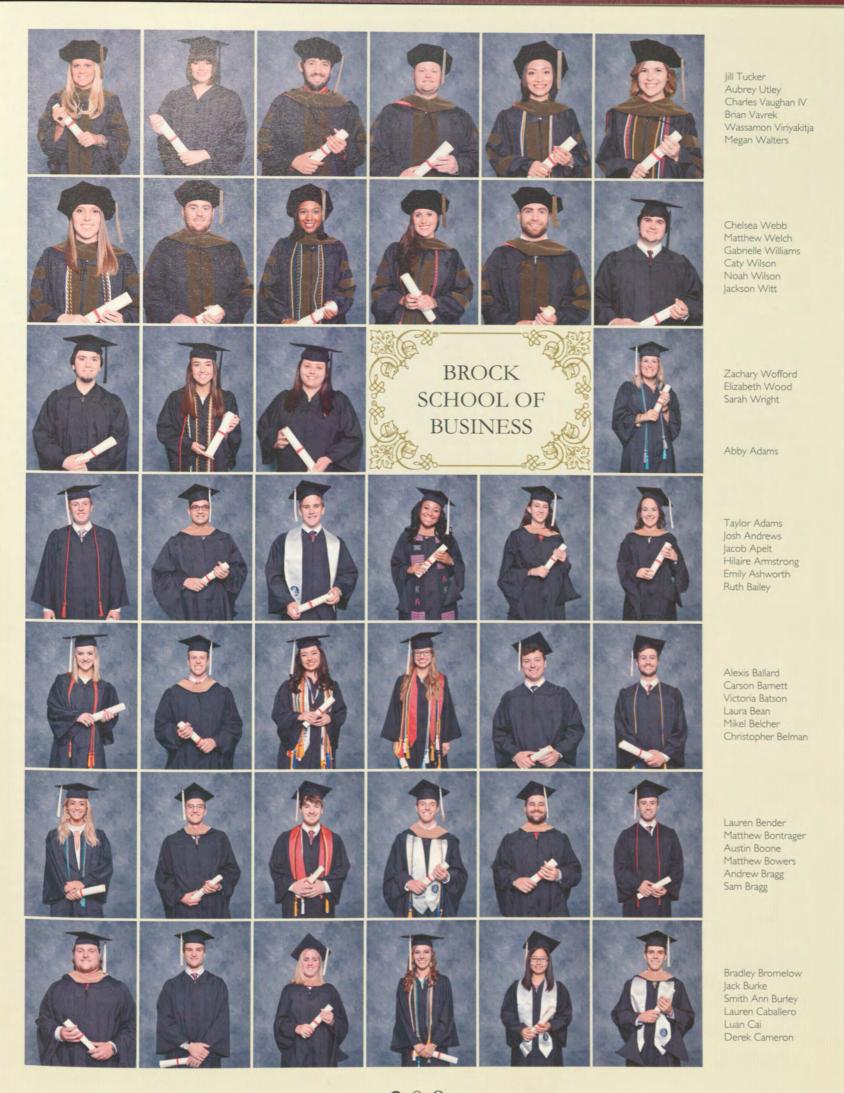
Kelsey Romans Jessica Rose Nicholas Sanders Sydney Sanders Bradley Saunders Neil Schenk

Samantha Schutte Stephan Scott William Seibert Jessica Silvia Morgan Simmons Eric Smith

Kennedy Smith Regina Smith Emily Sochovka Daniel Sokolowski Kara Sparkman Kylie Stansell

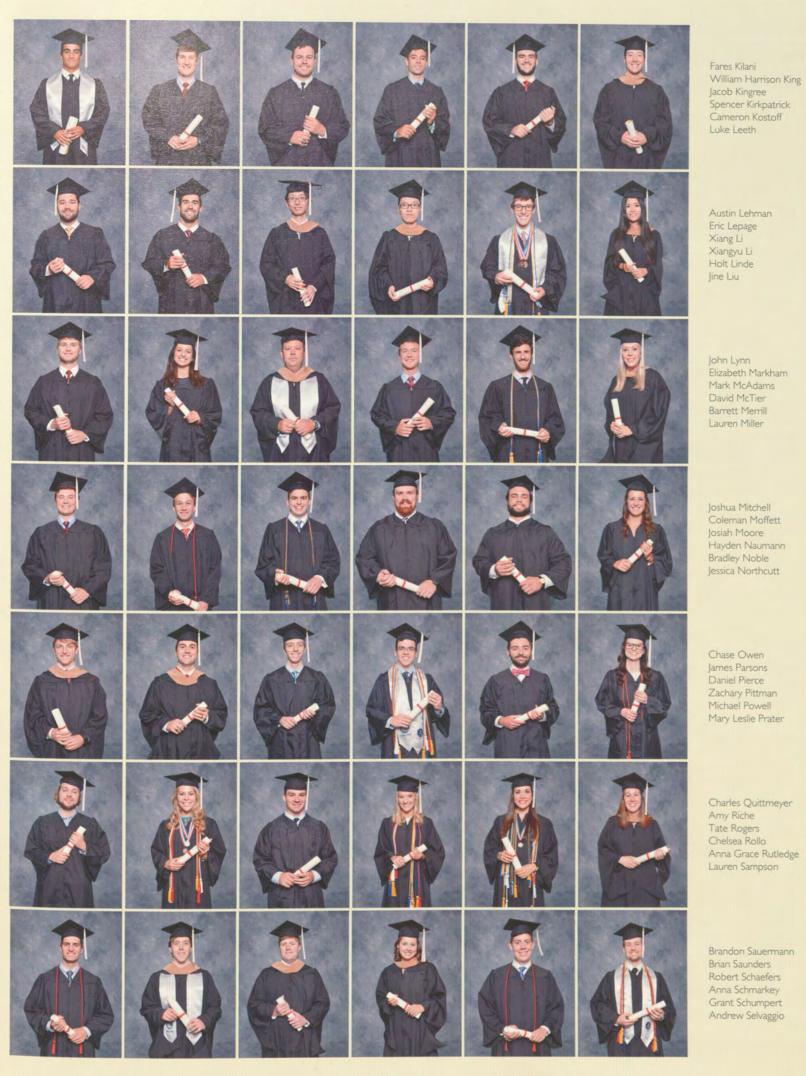
George Steele IV
Adam Steg
Alex Sturdivant
Luke Sullivan
Haobo Sun
Jonathan Swainson

PHARMACY — 208 — PHARMACY



Matthew Carrick Joshua Carter Ray Carter Jenna Cash Taylor Chadwell Shihan Chen Mary Margaret Clark Charles Collins Zachary Daily Matthew Dedo Victoria Domitrovich Albert Elmore Richard Enger Isaac Espy Jonathan Faulks Andrew Feldewerth Elizabeth Fillmore Micheal Fitzpatrick Rachel Fox Kalyn Fuller Blake Gardner Taylor Gillilan Graham Gilreath Anna Godwin Erin Godwin Jordan Green Austin Gritters Warren Handrahan Charles Haney Thomas Hanrahan Kathryn Harroff Thomas Hart Courtney Hawkins Brandon Hayman Lincoln Honts Brian Homcastle Bradley Hulker Andrew Jackson Shadi Jaraysi

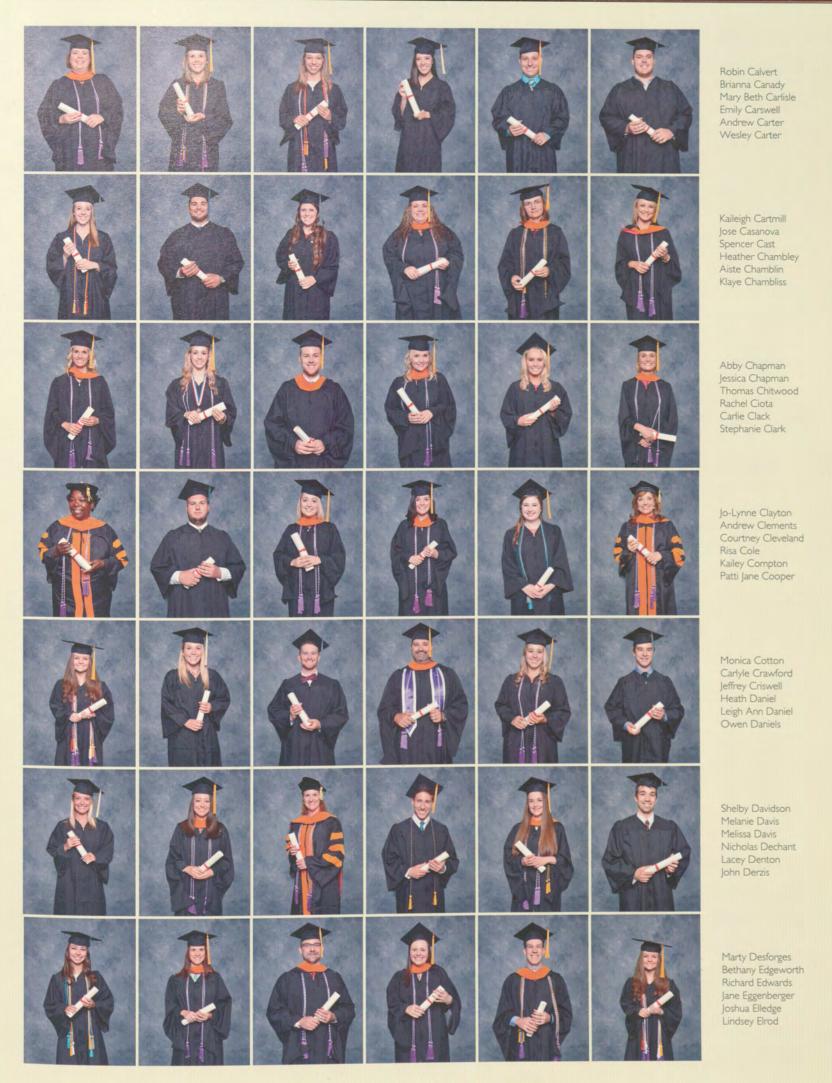
Caroline Jenkins James Johnson Anil Joshi



John Shahawy Haley Shaw Judson Stidham Sr. Clay Sullivan Michael Taylor Mary Kate Thomas Laura Valby Colson Wagoner Brianna Walker Danruo Wang Dustin Warren Gerrick Wilkins Jake Wilks lvy Williams Sarah Brook Williams Austin Wouters Kelsey Wyrosdick Chong Yu Jie Zhang COLLEGE OF HEALTH Mellisa Anderson Cody Arant **SCIENCES** Toni Armstrong Jessica John-Finn Aubin Neshama Avrahami Sarah Bailey Paula Battaglia Jeane Beals Taylor Beek Linda Beeson Haley Bishop Kate Bishop Mary Blankinship Catherine Blyth Natalie Boren Haidi Breazeale Meredith Brock Cody Brooks Emily Brown Richard Cain

Lynelle Callender

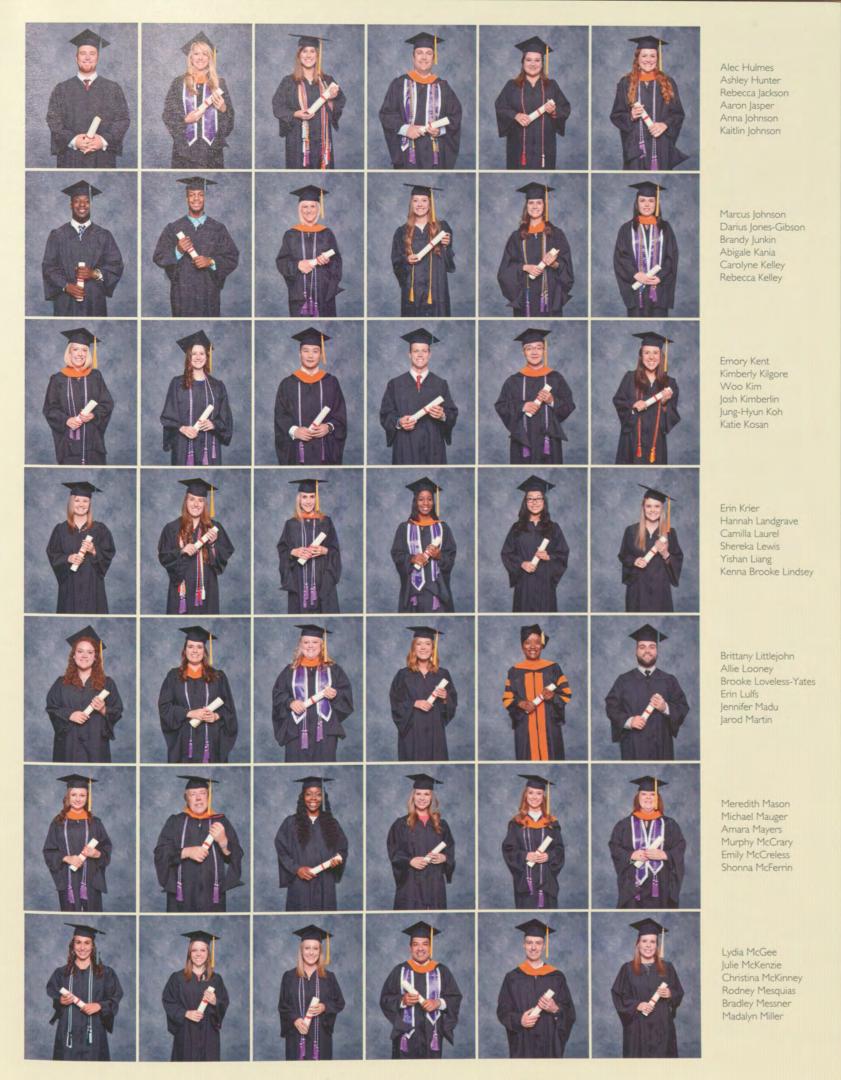
HEALTH BUSINESS -SCIENCES



HEALTH SCIENCES — 213 — HEALTH SCIENCES

Hope Essien LaDeitris Ferguson Mary Ann Fleming-Parker Lacy Foster Anna Foyt Allison Fuentes Erin Gallagher Brooke Gandy Erin Gettel Hannah Gilliland Alicia Gladden Kaley Glenn Anthony Gonzalez Amie Green Leslie Green Andrew Gregory Timothy Griffin Sarah Grove Enjoli Gupton Joel Guthrie Alicia Hamman Hannah Hardy Meredith Hargett Sara Harkness Justin Harrison Tara Hayes Chandler Headdy Alyson Heaney Cynthia Henderson Melanie Henningsen Katherine Henry Rylee Hemdon Christina Hessing Samantha Hickey Jessica Hill Catherine Hissam Hannah Holifield Hannah Hoots Andrew Homsby Dorsey Hoskins Angelica Huff Zachary Hughes

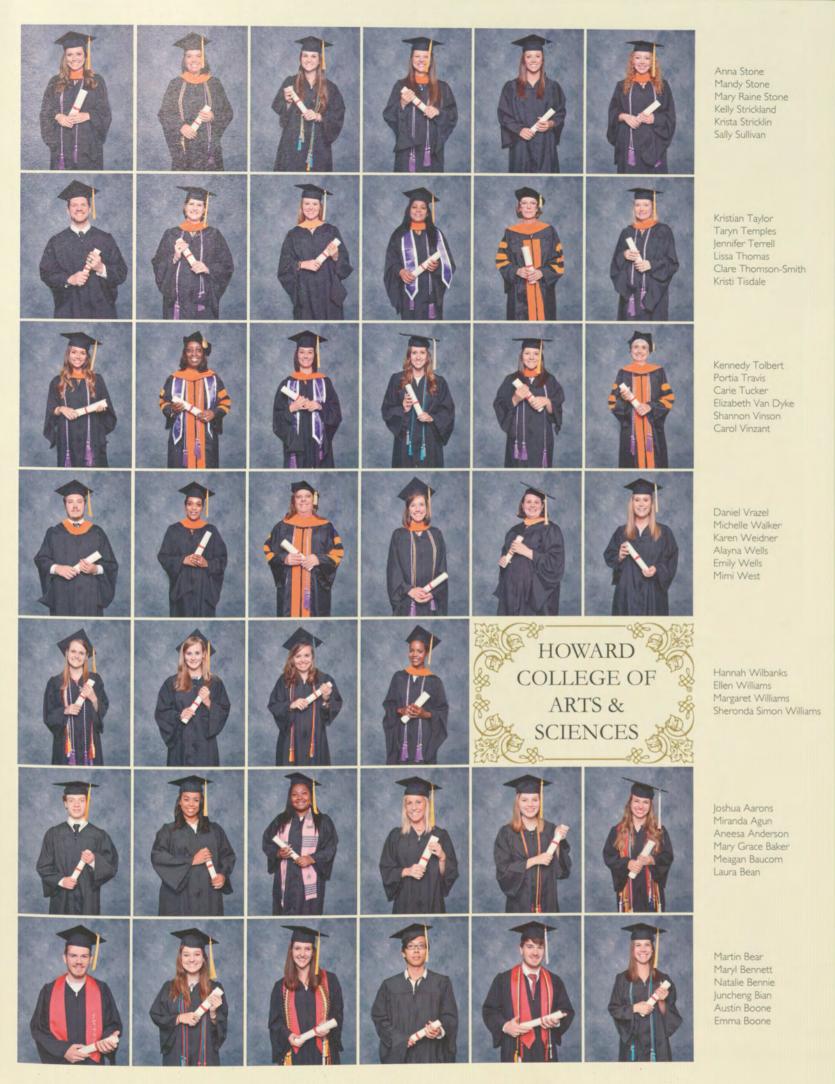
HEALTH - 214 - HEALTH SCIENCES



HEALTH - 215 - HEALTH SCIENCES

Richard Miller Brandy Mobley Andria Mody Aaron Moore Katherine Morrison Stephanie Moychak Jillian Musgraves Brenda Nance Sara Nasworthy Katherine Nelson Julia Nickell Angela Nitsche Ruth Owusu Emily Oxford Louise Phillips Robin Phillips Laura Poole Kinsley Poppa Maddie Power Carey Price Tameka Pritchett Karol Purdie Jason Redwine Madeline Rhine Rebecca Richardson Heather Robbins Toni Roberts Elizabeth Runyan Aimee Russell Rebecca Salstrand Jaime Sandefur Abby Santiago Kinsey Sessions Jamal Shabazz Kathryn Sheppard Conner Siekmann Aaron Smith Amber Smith Richard Smith Jennifer Snee Elizabeth Snyder Elisabeth Spragg

HEALTH SCIENCES — 216 — HEALTH SCIENCES



HEALTH - 217 - ARTS AND SCIENCES

Garrett Boucher Adele Bowler Mark David Bradford William Brennan James Brimm Lindsay Buechter Devin Buenger Patrick Buszka Saxon Butler Erin Carley Regan Chewning Joshua Chitwood Nicholas Clanton Kelsey Clark Katherine Cloninger Timothy Cole Benjamin Coleman Greg Collison Emily Condra Ashley Cook Cameron Cross Oluwabunmi Dada Jeremy Dale Lindsay Davis Dillon Dean Scott DeZouche Imani Dickson Langley Dillenberger Emily Duval Yasmeen Ebada Walker Edmondson Ross English Isaac Espy Elois Lemon Ewart Jonathan Faulks Emily Featherston

Ashley Ferguson Charles Ferguson Emily Ferrara Kyera Fletcher Matt Foreman Kyra Forman

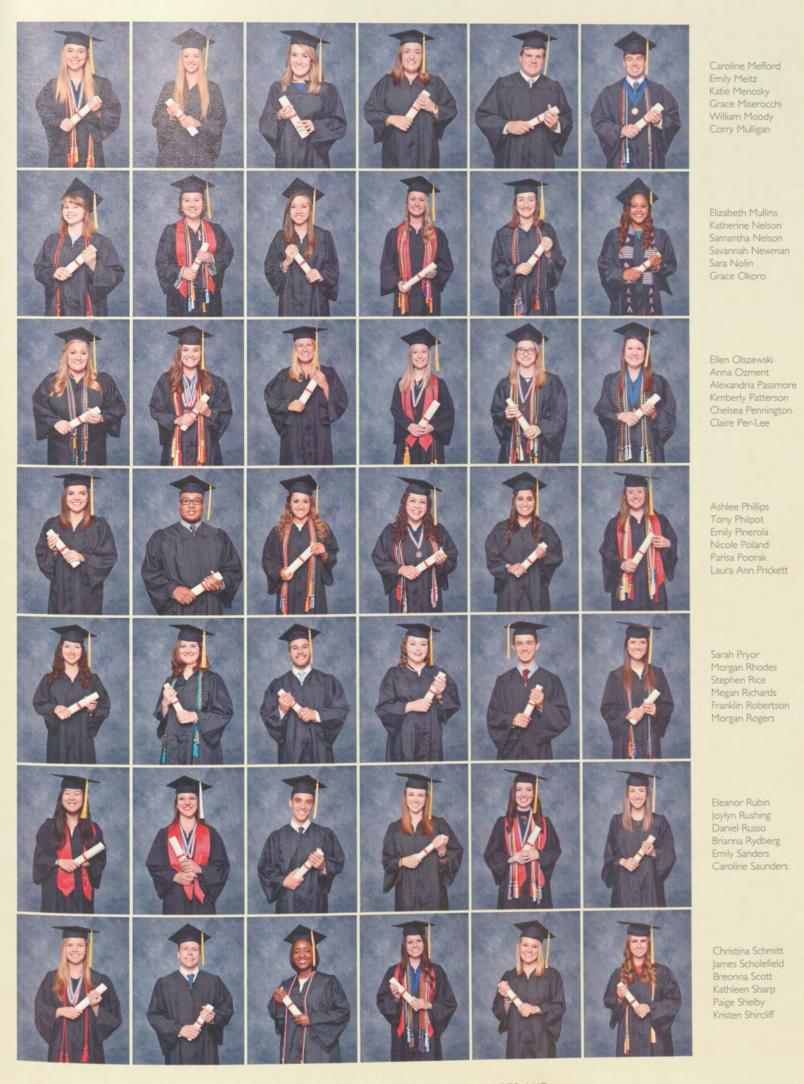
SCIENCES SCIENCES



ARTS AND - 219 - ARTS AND SCIENCES

Sarah Howard Lynn-Hollyn Howell Fu-Chung Hsiao Bradley Hulker Lauren Hutchens Amanda Hyde Lottie Jacks Hannah James Chelsea Jamieson Jonah Johnson Hannah Jones Allison Kanne Conner Kapperman Angela Kase Hannah Kawell Samuel Kawell Megan Kellenberger Emily Kelly Emily Killen Davis Kimball Tyler Kirkpatrick Charles Knapp Mary Knapp Emily Knauss Elizabeth Kolakoski Sarah Korta Nicholas Kromann Carley Landrum Stephen Lavett Ashten Legg Tao Li James Lichtenwalter Franklin Lowe Alex Lowry William Lundy Alexandra MacLean Lauren Marino Amy McCormack Rachel McCurry Chandler McLarren Karen McMurry Landon McNiel

ARTS AND SCIENCES - 220 - ARTS AND SCIENCES

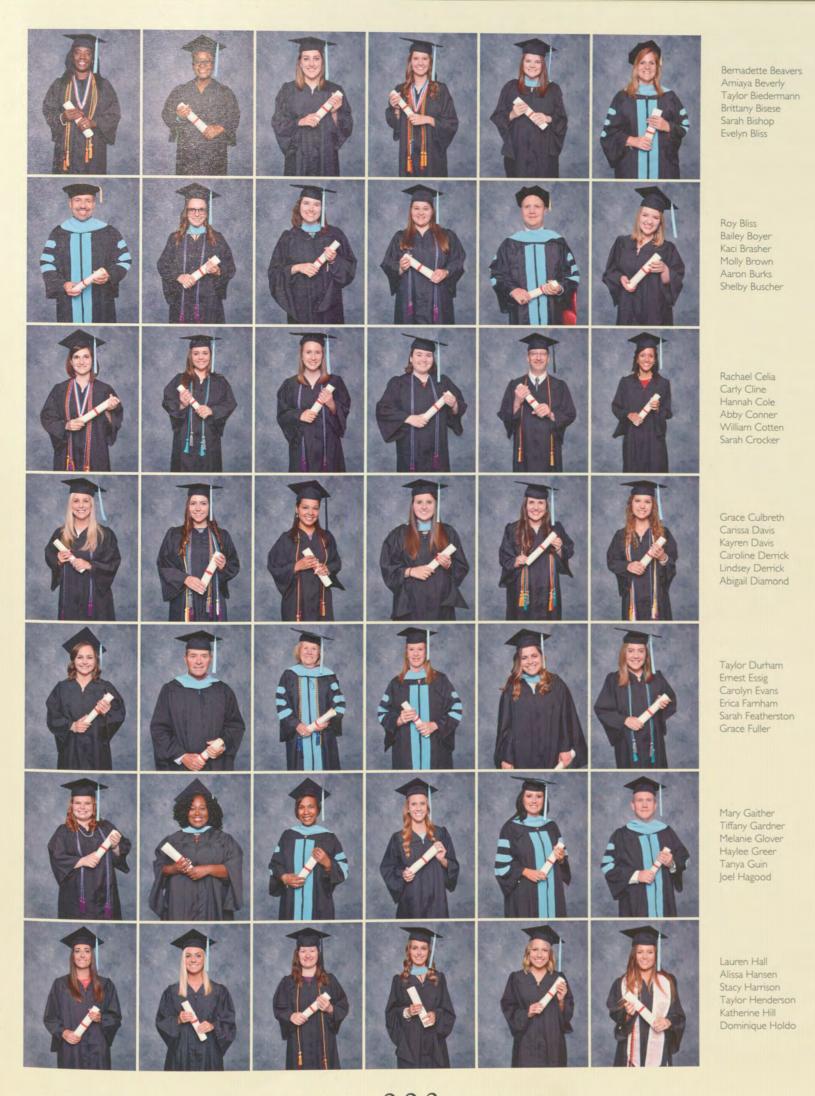


ARTS AND - 221 - ARTS AND SCIENCES

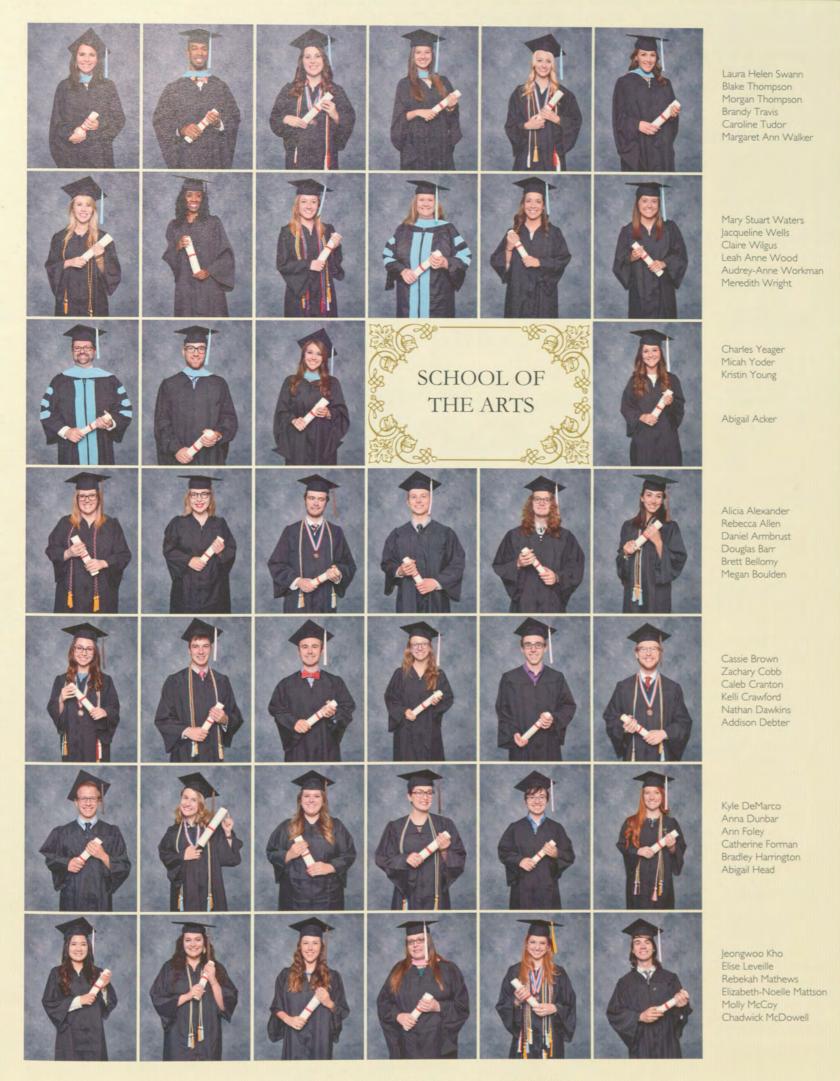
Hannah Shuffett Lauren Sims Macey Sims Cedric Small Haley Smith Kirsten Smith Emily Smothermon Sarah Sullivan Shelby Taylor Brandon Teeling Craig Thiebaud Bonnie Tillman Audrey Torkar Joshua Valdix Paige Van de Vuurst Edward Vance Tyler Vanderheiden Taylor Vassey Nneka Walker Brianna Ware Elizabeth Wells Daniel Wertz Sydnee Wisler Rebecca Womack Katharine Wood Mary Woodard John Woodley James William Worthington Tanner Yancy Nathan Yoguez Kara Young ORLEAN BULLARD Taylor Yungk BEESON SCHOOL Xudong Zhang Xinyi Zhou OF EDUCATION Meredith Alvarez Sophia Artusa Robert Bailey Jr.

Christine Barton Taylor Bartuska Steffani Baxter

ARTS AND 222 - EDUCATION SCIENCES



Stephanie Honeycutt Meredith Hunter Latta Johnston Kelsey Jones Leah Juliano Brittany Justice Ashley King Ciara Kizzire Katherine Laatsch Megan Lamneck Kurt Lemire Amanda Lemons Laura Markus Chandler McAlister John Thomas McGraw Jr. Kimberly McGraw Maureen Meyers Morgan Michell Grace Mintz Lindsey Nix Lauren Oden Nicole Otero Elizabeth Parker Max Parker Melissa Parker Jessica Petty Kari Pollio Alden Raulston Hannah Revels Victoria Rivera Devynne Roahrig Lucy Roark Kristen Roughen Terra Russell Scott Saavedra Helen Sandy Taresa Scott Elizabeth Smith Todd Smolinsky Alura Soles Faye Speed Ashley Staarmann



EDUCATION — 225 — SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Merrell McQueen Ellen Mitchell Kaitlin Moore Hannah Muse Madilyn Muse Jonathan Myers



Michael Southerland Atlee Spencer Daniel Tankersley Christy Vest Kendra Wiley Despina Wilson





Christina Witt

## From A Final First Thoughts

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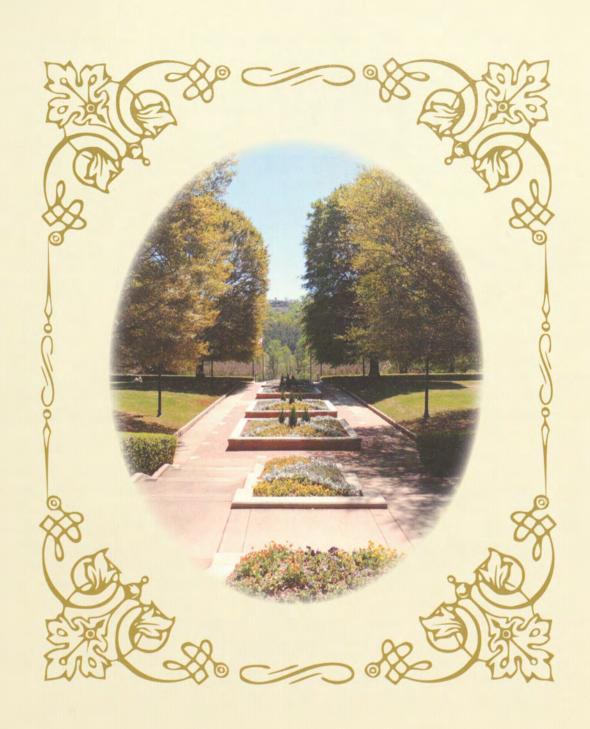
Graduation probably seemed a distant point for you as you began your first course. Do you remember your thoughts at the beginning, when you wondered one night exactly why you decided upon this place, this degree, this expense? Do you recall the moments when you doubted your ability to see your way through to the end of a particular course? Especially in these recent months, perhaps you have done as I did so many years ago as a student, counting down the last class sessions, the last papers, the last minutes until finally, unbelievably, the end was easily within sight.

If I had 1,061 hours before the commencement ceremonies that will engulf the campus, my greatest desire would be to fill them with listening for an hour to each one of you, to the tales of your struggles and your victories and everything in between. I would learn from the ways in which those of us at Samford fell short and from the recollected moments in which a faculty member, staff member or student offered just the right comment to you, at just the right time. I would hear of all that you have learned and of the ways in which you hope to use that knowledge. Perhaps you would speak to me of deepening and owning your personal faith, even as cynicism rises around us. You might tell me of your fears for finding the right job and of your concerns about the loans you and your family have shouldered so that you could gain the degree that you'll soon receive. I imagine that your narrative would reflect excitement, tinged with melancholy. It is the same with each rite of passage, throughout every stage of life. Each ending signals a beginning; each joy reminds us of a sacrifice; each struggle prompts us to hope.

For almost 19 years, in every commencement ceremony over which I have presided, I have used the same words when conferring the degrees. I'll use exactly those words in the ceremonies awaiting us this month. Gathered in the Wright Center, as your family and friends look on with tearful pride, Dr. Hardin, our Provost, will announce that the members of the faculty have certified that you have met the requirements for your degree. I'll step to the microphone and you will hear these words: "By the authority vested in me by the Board of Trustees, in harmony with the recommendations of the faculty, and in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama, I hereby confer upon you the degree that you have so dearly earned, together with our prayers that you will use what you gained here in the service of God and of humankind, wherever you may go in this needy world."

A needy world awaits you. You are prepared for the challenges. May God bless you on commencement day and throughout your meaningful, purposeful life.

~President Andrew Westmoreland~







When you come to the last page of a storybook, it's natural to expect an elaborate "The End," a happily-ever-after finale. This year's book was meant to be read like a story, so it is tempting to simply finish with those two conclusive words.

The truth is, however, that though another year has come and gone, it is not simply the end. This chapter may have come to a close, but the story is far from over.

The people you have met, the experiences you have had, the challenges you have overcome and the successes you have achieved in the last year have shaped you. They have armed you with memories and lessons and moments to carry with you on the next leg of your journey.

We have collected these photos and authored these stories as a way of capturing the moments and preserving the memories that make up this portion of your Samford story. We hope that as you look back, you will be reminded of how truly formative the year has been. We hope that the stories on these pages will come alive as you recall the relationships built in these moments.

We believe a Samford story is more than just the events that happen between August and May, and it's more than just the four years spent here. These events and these four years facilitate conversations and interactions, moments and relationships that are meant to be carried with you as you embark on your next chapter, whatever that may be.

So this is not the end. The story, your Samford story, is far from over. This place, the opportunities you have had here and the people who have walked alongside you will pave the way for something great. In fact, I would even venture to reason that the best is yet to come.

Claire Per-Lee, Editor-In-Chief



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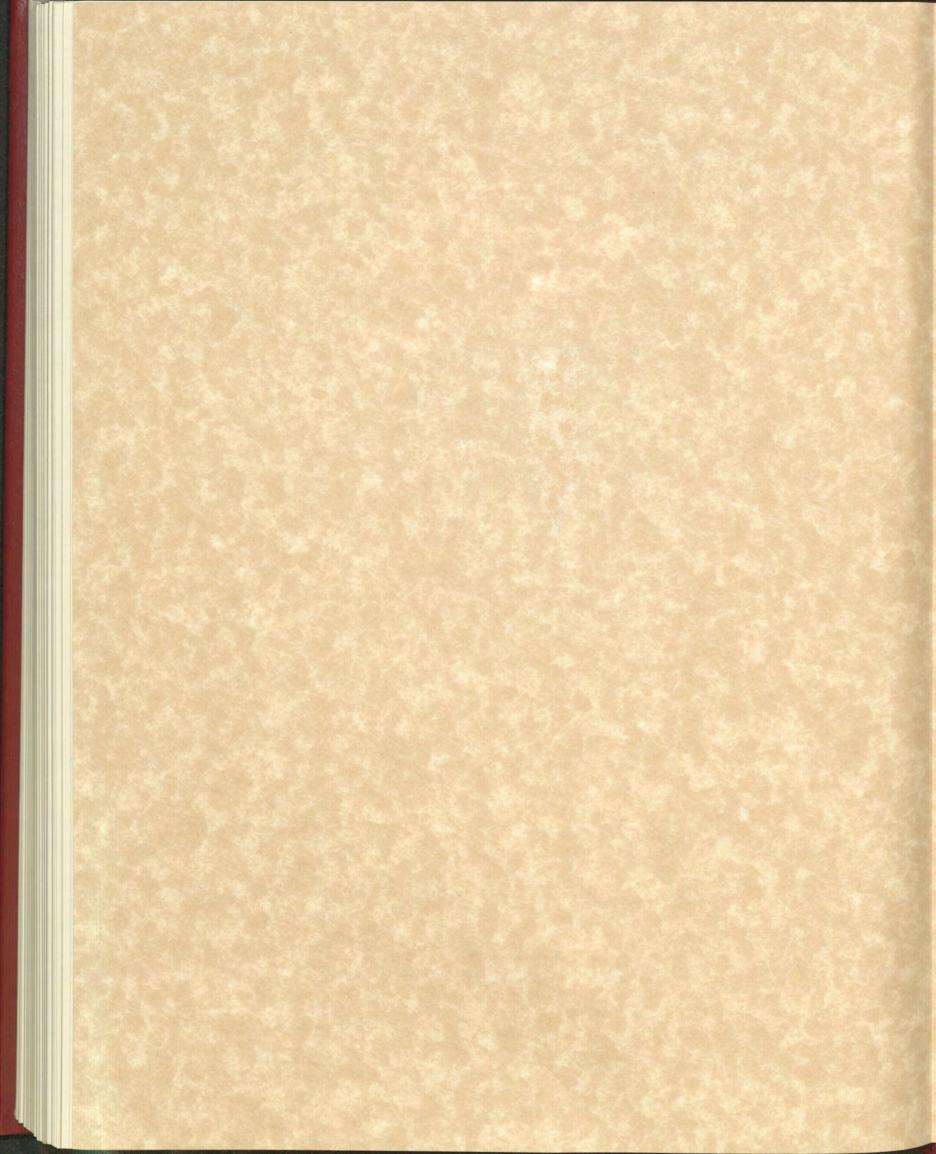
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